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FISHING GUIDE

An Angler's Guide to Adirondack
Lakes, Ponds and Streams

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iloveny.com



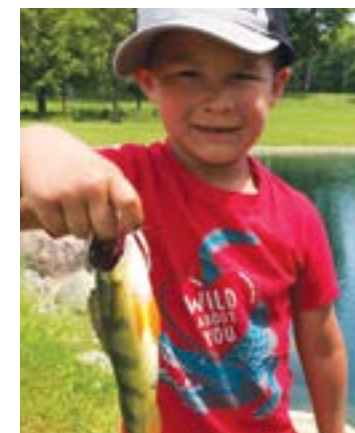
VisitAdirondacks.com



3,000 FRESHWATER LAKES AND PONDS
30,000 MILES OF STREAMS AND BROOKS
1,000 MILES OF ADIRONDACK RIVERS
100 COLD AND WARM WATER FISH SPECIES BY CANOE,
KAYAK, BOAT, DOCKSIDE, IN WADERS OR ON ICE

With so many options for fishing in the Adirondacks, where do you begin?

Right here. This fishing guide will tell you just about everything you need to know about the region's lakes, rivers, inlets and ponds. Find more than 200 listings organized by town of key resources, such as marinas, bait and tackle, fuel, and launch sites.



The Adirondacks offer opportunities for world-class angling as well as the makings of memories – and a few good fish stories– to last a lifetime.

Reel fun. Found here in the enchanting six-million-acre Adirondack Park.



[VISITADIRONACKS.COM](https://www.visitadirondacks.com)

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New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

For trail conditions, backcountry information and permits, fishing and hunting regulations and licenses, consult the DEC offices listed below, Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 4:45pm.

DEC Headquarters
 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233
www.dec.ny.gov

DEC Region 5

Clinton, Franklin, Essex, Hamilton, Warren, Fulton, Saratoga and Washington Counties
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/places-to-fish/adirondack-lake-champlain>

DEC Region 5 Headquarters

Route 86, Box 296, Ray Brook, NY 12977 518-897-1200

Information on fishing in DEC Region 5:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/places-to-fish/adirondack-lake-champlain>

DEC Region 5 Sub-Offices

Main St. Extension, Northville, NY 12134 518-863-4545

232 Hudson St., Warrensburg, NY 12885 518-623-1200

DEC Region 6

St. Lawrence, Lewis, Herkimer, Jefferson and Oneida Counties
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/contact-us/statewide-office-information>

DEC Region 6 Headquarters

317 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 315-785-2263

DEC Region 6 Sub-Offices

6739 Route 11, Potsdam, NY 13676 315-265-3090

225 North Main St., Herkimer, NY 13350 315-866-6330

Rt. 812, Lowville, NY 13367 315-376-3521

Fishing Licenses

Available at most sporting goods stores and at town and county clerk offices. To obtain a license by mail, submit your application to: NYSDEC License Sales Office, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233. Computerized fishing licenses may be purchased by credit card at 866-933-2257. For an on-line application and information, check the DEC website: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/fishing-license>

Professional Guides

All New York State Guides must be licensed by the DEC. A list of licensed guides is available at DEC offices. **New York State Outdoor Guides Association (NYSOGA)** Free Guide to the Licensed Guides of New York State. 866-469-7642. www.nysoga.com

Forest Preserve Campgrounds

Information: 518-457-2500 Reservations: 800-456-CAMP
<http://www.decny.gov/things-to-do/camping/campgrounds-day-use-areas>

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Adirondack Information

www.VisitAdirondacks.com

Adirondack Coast Visitors Bureau
 7061 State Route 9, PO Box 310, Plattsburgh, NY 12901
 518-563-1000
www.goadirondack.com info@goadirondack.com
 877-242-6752

Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism/ Lake Placid CVB
 2608 Main St., Lake Placid, NY 12946
 518-523-2445 or 800-447-5224
www.lakeplacid.com
www.tupperlake.com
www.saranalake.com
www.adirondackhub.com

Park-wide Emergency Search and Rescue or Fire Hotline: 518-891-0235

www.whitefaceregion.com
www.lakechamplainregion.com
www.adirondackexperience.com

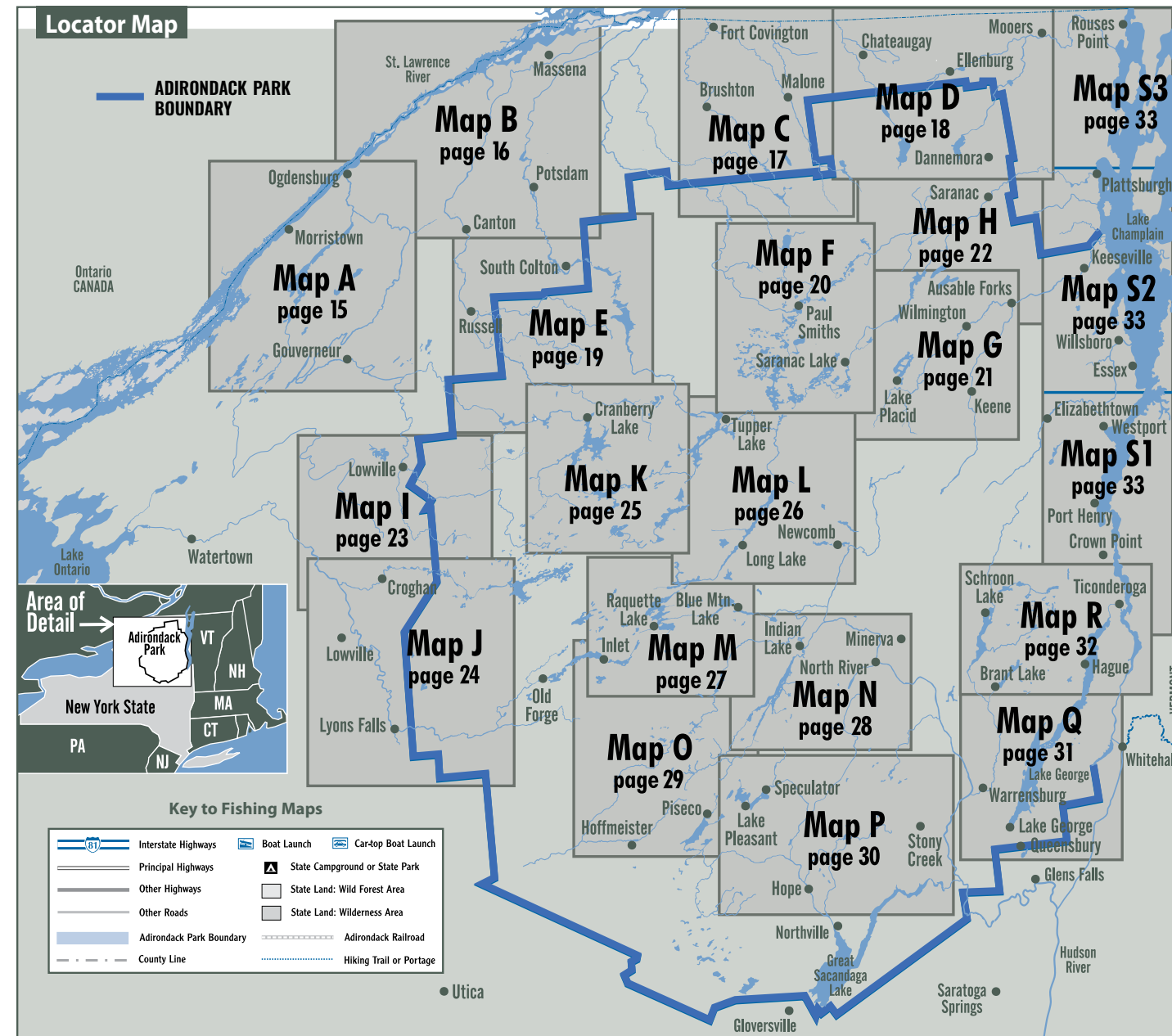
Discover Tug Hill
 7551 South State St, Lowville, NY 13367
 315-376-2213 • www.discovertughill.com

St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce
 101 Main Street, 1st Floor, Canton, NY 13617
 315-386-4000 or 877-228-7810
www.viststlc.com
slccoc@northnet.org

Warren County Tourism
 Municipal Center, 1340 Route 9, Lake George, NY 12845
 518-761-6366 or 800-365-1050
www.VisitLakeGeorge.com

Franklin County Tourism
 355 West Main St Suite 438, Malone, NY 12953
 518-481-1573 • www.exploreadirondackfrontier.com

To advertise contact JMF Publishing Inc., ads@jmfpublishing.com



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Map Resources

United States Geological Survey
 Topographic maps. Available at area sporting goods stores.
 888-Ask-USGS, www.usgs.gov, <http://mapping.usgs.gov>

Adirondack Maps, Inc.
 Adirondack Canoe Map. Topographic trail maps: Central Mountains, High Peaks Region, Lake George Region, Northwest Lakes, West-Central Wilderness Area. Available at local sporting goods stores.
www.adirondackmaps.com

Delorme Mapping Company
 New York State Atlas and Gazetteer, www.delorme.com
 Nautical Charts
 (Lake Champlain, St. Lawrence River) National Ocean Service, Distribution Div. (N/ACC3), 6501 Lafayette Ave., Riverdale, MD 20737-1199 or call 800-638-8975. Charts may also be purchased at local authorized retail locations.

Fishing Hot Spots Maps
www.fishinghotspots.com Black Lake, Lake Champlain, Lake George, St. Lawrence River
 Adirondack Lakes Survey
 Online depth maps for over 1,465 lakes in the Adirondacks.
www.adirondacklakesurvey.org/choicepage.asp

DEC Public Fishing Rights Maps
 Online maps include the Lower Schroon River, Chateaugay River and Marble River. Check website as maps are added.
www.decny.gov/pubs/379.html

Wilderness Brook Trout

THE NATIVE

The brook trout, like the common loon, signifies the essence of the Adirondack wilderness. Any venture to a remote pond in search of brookies promises an awesome setting, a respite from the hectic pace of modern lifestyles, an enriching experience, an intimacy with the natural world, a magical solitude, and a personal renewal. Anyone who spends time in the Adirondack wilderness returns home a richer person. Whenever this individual recalls the experience, nature beckons; mind, body, and spirit come alive with an overwhelming urge to return to the wild.

St. Regis Canoe Area

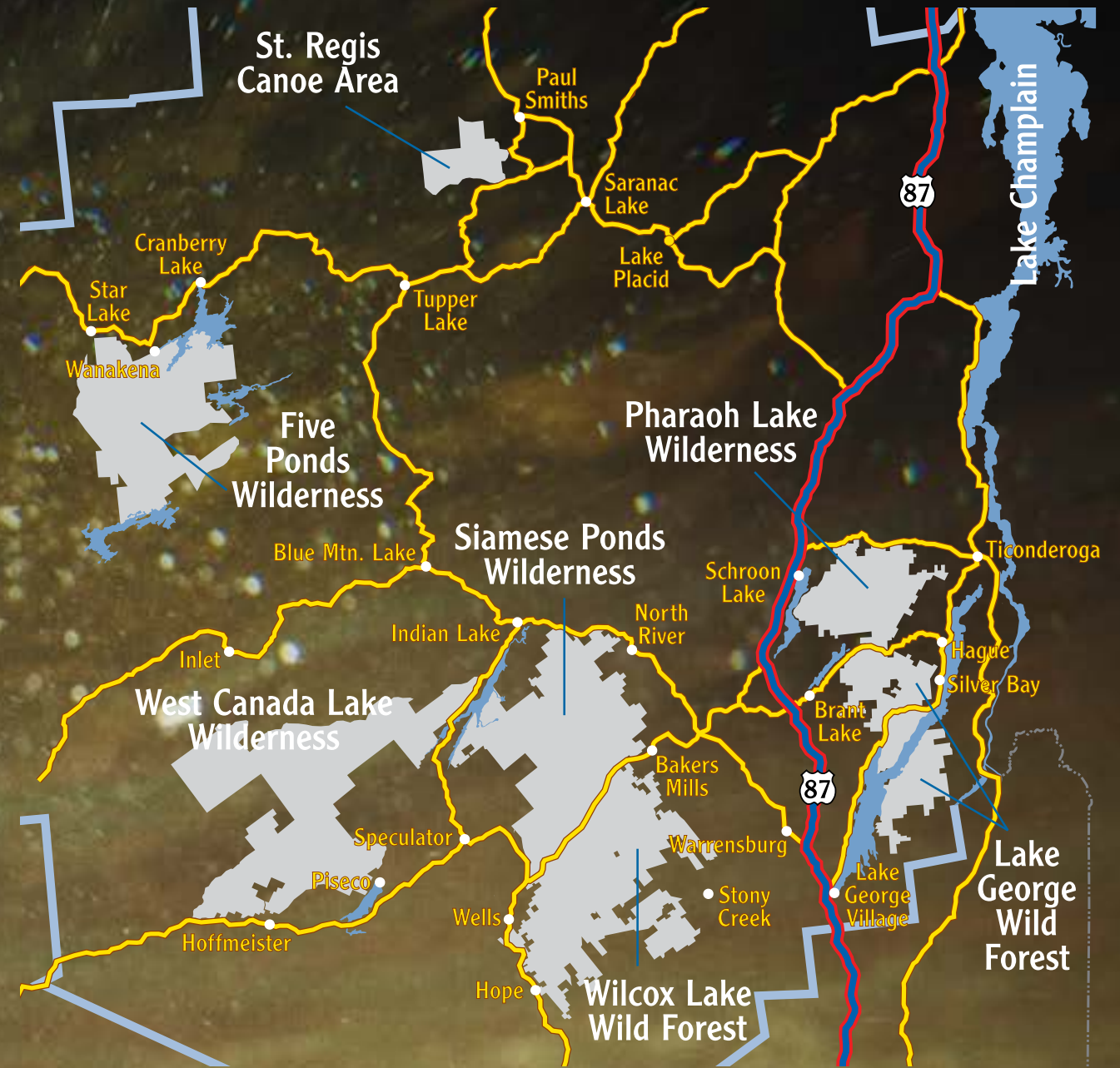
Of the Big Three, the St. Regis Canoe Area is most accessible and is the only designated Canoe Area in New York State. Located in southern Franklin County, the Canoe Area covers 18,000 acres, includes 58 bodies of water, and is managed as wilderness with a special focus on non-motorized water recreation and the protection of fishery resources. This vast tract of wilderness offers a variety of trip possibilities ranging from a half day to two weeks. In addition to brook trout, waters in the Canoe Area hold lake trout, splake, landlocked salmon, and rainbow trout. (See map and description on page 20.)

Pharaoh Lake Wilderness

Accessible by foot only, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness offers a remote experience with outstanding scenery. Located in southeastern Essex County and extending into northern Warren County, Pharaoh Lake Wilderness has a network of marked trails leading to twenty ponds of various size and fishing quality. A number of these ponds offer excellent brook trout fishing and some waters promise high populations of wild lake trout. The eastern portion of the wilderness has a more intricate trail system while the western half offers fewer trails and a more remote experience. (See map and description on page 32.)

West Canada Lake Wilderness

West Canada Lakes Wilderness offers the ultimate Adirondack brook trout adventure. Located in southern Hamilton County, West Canada Lakes Wilderness covers 160,000 acres and has over 50 ponds and lakes. A number of marked trails exist in the region, including the Northville-Lake Placid Trail, but many sections remain trackless. Waters in the large circle of lakes from Cedar to Spruce are good bets for brook trout action. Anglers must have serious wilderness skills to venture into these truly remote waters. (See map and description on page 29.)



Brook Trout Basics

The best brook trout fishing occurs in spring and autumn when water temperatures are cool. Also, brookies are easier to locate then because they typically inhabit waters close to shore. Summer fishing, however, can be good for those who know the whereabouts of natural springs in a pond or lake. A temperature gauge can help anglers find such spots.

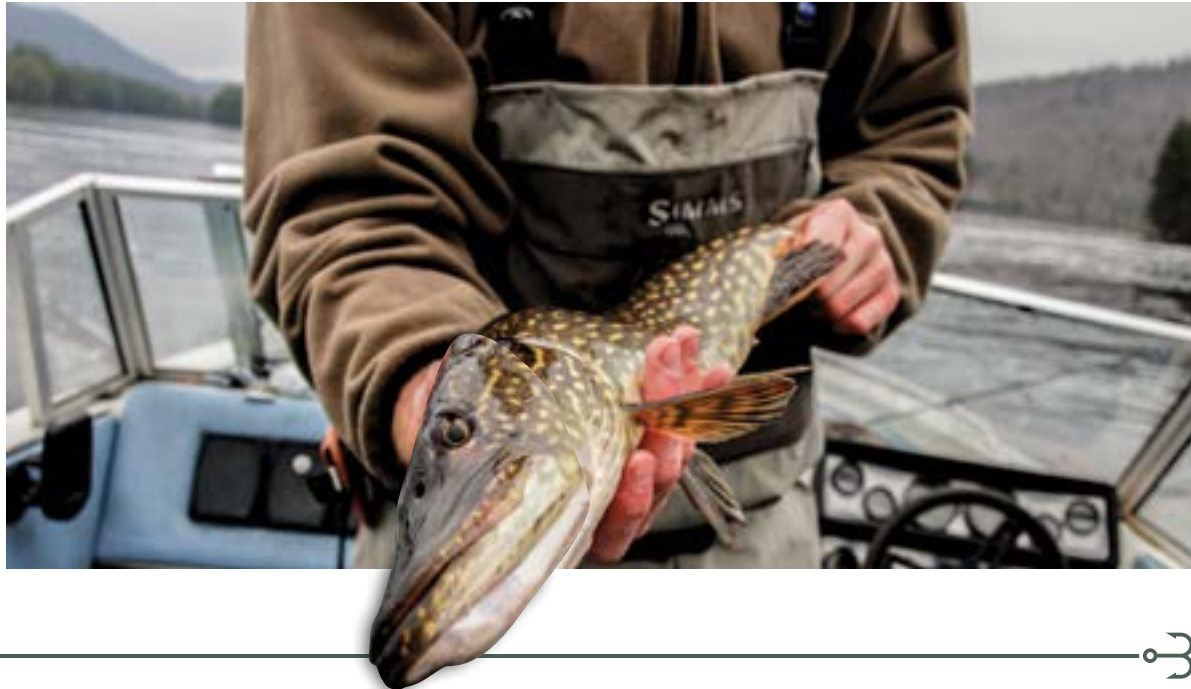
Traditionally, anglers opt for trolling to locate Adirondack brook trout. One technique involves trailing flies, nymphs, or streamers on a sinking fly line. Black or dark-green nymphs and leeches seem to produce best. Considered "THE" Adirondack brook trout technique, trolling a Lake Clear Wabblar and worm is the most popular angling approach. The general guideline calls for the use of copper-colored blades for dark-water conditions and silver-colored blades on bright days or in clear water.

Even though trolling dominates as a technique, fly fishing and spincasting can also be effective on backwater brook trout. Fly fishers present Montana nymphs, muddler minnows, black leeches, and olive woolly buggers while spin fishers toss spoons, spinners, and minnow plugs.



Walleye & Northern Pike Season

B O B B Y H E L M S



May 1 of every year marks the opening for Walleye and Northern Pike season here in the Adirondacks. This opening encompasses one of the largest and most astounding spectacles every spring – the annual spawning run of the Rainbow Smelt. These small 3-5" baitfish reside in the deep, cool waters for 9-10 months out of the year. But when the spring thaw starts these little guys move into the shallower waters and a feeding frenzy ensues.



Northern Pike

Toothy pike are the river's "fish for all seasons" as they can be readily taken throughout the year with the prime months being May and September. Pike populations have declined over the last decade because of changes in river ecology, but the action still ranks among the best in the state. To locate northerns, head to any of the mainland or island bays where fish congregate at dropoffs, along weedlines, on points, or in deep holes. Effective techniques include live minnows suspended below a bobber or casting spinners and spoons. Local anglers, however, prefer to cast bucktail jigs tipped with a minnow or plastic worm.



Walleye

At a time when angling pressure is increasing, the walleye population is actually expanding. Fish numbers are on the rise because of stocking efforts and habitat improvement projects at primary spawning sites. Walleyes can be caught from opening day in May until freeze up in December. In the early season, look for fish near spawning areas. Throughout summer and fall, walleyes hold near mid-river shoals, along island dropoffs, at mainland points, and over soft-bottomed flats with mild current. Drifting crawler-tipped jigs or worm harnesses is the most effective technique followed by trolling crankbaits, particularly long, slender ones.

Fishing the Adirondack Region's Fresh Waters

More than 3,000 freshwater lakes, rivers, streams and ponds flow through the Adirondack Region, offering abundant fishing for more than 100 cold and warm water species, including Walleye, Northern Pike, Chain Pickerel, Tiger Muskellunge, Land-Locked Salmon, Trout, and Smelt.

Legendary Adirondack rivers flow into deep glacial lakes, providing a perfectly balanced eco-system where Rainbow and native trout thrive, Small and Largemouth Bass are abundant, and the view is straight out of *Field & Stream*.

Legendary Fishing Waters

Fish the historic Ausable River in the Adirondack High Peaks Region of Lake Placid. Named one of the "Best Hunting and Fishing Towns in the US" by *Outdoor Life*, Lake Placid's West Branch of the Ausable River offers incredible fly fishing for anglers throughout the spring, summer and fall. Nearby fishing outfitters provide the lures you need to land the river's massive native trout, while experienced guides offer insider tips– from favorite honey holes to which lures they're using and how to tie your own.

Bass Fishing

New York State bass fishing season opens in June along the Adirondack Coast of Lake Champlain. This world-renowned lake offers over 600 miles of shoreline for unparalleled boating and incredible bass fishing. The lake's deep waters create ideal conditions for Large and Smallmouth Bass, as well as Walleye, Land-Locked Atlantic Salmon, Carp, Steelhead and Bowfin. Each year, Lake Champlain bass fishing tournaments draw thousands of fishermen from around the world. Several local charters offer fishing excursions made-to-order from relaxed spin casting to adventurous trips to the deep, wild waters where the trophy fish swim.

Where to Fish to Land an Adirondack Monster

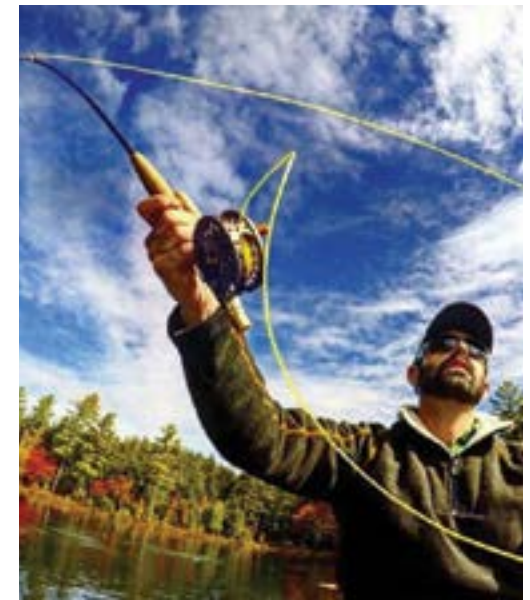
Walleye, one of the largest fish on the perch family tree, they are New York's favorite sportfish. Highly sought among fisherman, walleye can reach a considerable size, anywhere up to 12 pounds, and are challenging to land. But man, do they taste delicious. The DEC stocks over 140 bodies of water across the state, including major watersheds. Some of the Adirondacks' most productive walleye fisheries in the Adirondacks include Tupper Lake, Union Falls Flow, Saratoga Lake, Great Sacandaga Lake, and Delta Lake.

Northern Pike are abundant in New York State, which has developed a well-deserved reputation as a priority destination for trophy pike anglers. Many of the larger Adirondack Lakes such as Tupper Lake, Schroon Lake, Lake George, the Saranac Lake Chain, Cranberry Lake, Long Lake, Upper Chateaugay, and the St. Regis Chain of Lakes. Great Sacandaga Lake is the ultimate pike fishing, and anglers there have been known to land monsters weighing in at over 20 pounds.

Chain Pickerel, those toothy sport fish that put up a fight when hooked, inhabit shallow, weedy waters of Lake George, Brant Lake, Lake Champlain and the Black River.

Tiger Muskellunge, a cross between Northern Pike and Muskellunge, have been stocked by the DEC since the mid-1960s. Like most hybrid fish species, Tiger Muskies grow fast, sporting the long sleek bodies of both parent fish, with an elongated bottom jaw featuring what's called a duck-bill mouth. Fish for this hybrid species in Horseshoe Lake, Lake Durant, St. Lawrence River, and Lincoln Pond.

Trout flourish in hundreds of lakes, ponds and streams throughout the Adirondacks. Four species of trout: Lake, Brown, Rainbow and Brook, or Speckled trout, abound in the region. Brook, or Speckled trout, is New York's official state fish, and are plentiful in cold, clean small-to-moderate sized streams, lakes and ponds across the Adirondacks.





Ice Fishing

BOB SCOTT

Some people complain that winters are too long, but such is not the case for ice anglers who revel in that time of the year when ice covers northern waters. In truth, the winter months offer some of the year's best fishing, and the ice fishing season typically extends from December to April. Available species include **northern pike, walleyes, tiger muskies, lake trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, landlocked salmon** and a variety of panfish.

In the winter, my go-to place is definitely Lake George. Once the ice is safe ice on Lake George, I will spend 3-4 days a week fishing there. I enjoy fishing Lake George because it is hands-down the best lake trout fishery in our area. Not only can you catch an abundance of trout, but you have the chance of catching a 20+ pound fish on any given day. For open water fishing I enjoy going to Jabe Pond for the big brook trout and the wildlife. There are usually loons on the pond who seem to be more curious of you than afraid.

I use many tackle setups when fishing in the Adirondacks, from small pins minnow for small ponds and streams, white tub jigs for lake trout and as a fly fisherman, the mayfly hatch is one that you don't want to miss on the back Adirondack ponds.



Read more about Bob's ice fishing adventures at VisitAdirondacks.com

Ice Fishing Throughout the Park

Look for the snowflake symbol ❄️ at the end of the descriptions on pages 15-33 to find some of the more popular ice fishing lakes.

Before heading out, anglers are advised to check the Special Regulations section of the Fishing Regulations Guide because ice fishing regulations can vary from water to water, and not all lakes are open to winter fishing. Furthermore, fishermen should contact local bait shops, DEC offices, or chambers of commerce to verify that ice conditions are safe. These places can also provide up-to-date information on how the fishing has been as well as the dates of ice fishing derbies. Such derbies serve as social outings as well as celebrations of winter angling.

Three of the most popular winter destinations are Lake Champlain, Lake George, and the St. Lawrence River. Among the other top ice fishing waters are Black Lake, Brant Lake, Chazy Lake, Lake Bonaparte, Lake Clear, Lake Colby, Lake Eaton, Meacham Lake, Piseco Lake, Schroon Lake, Seventh Lake, Tupper Lake, and Upper Chateaugay Lake. Dozens of smaller waters also offer outstanding winter angling.

For more information, check the DEC website: www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7733.html.

Important Open Season Dates:

- Trout, April 1 – October 15; Trout in Inland Streams April 1 - October 15; October 16-March 31 - Catch and release Only
- Landlocked Atlantic Salmon, All year
- Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, June 15 - Nov 30; Catch and Release only: Dec 1 - June 14. No catch & release bass season in Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson and St. Lawrence Counties
- Muskellunge, June 1 – November 30
- Northern Pike, May 1 – March 15
- Pickerel, May 1 – March 15
- Tiger Muskellunge, May 1 – March 15
- Walleye, May 1 – March 15
- *Open season dates reflect statewide seasons. Be sure to check DEC Freshwater Fishing Regulations to ensure there are no Special Regulations on the water you plan to fish.

Fishing License:

- Annual Fishing License, valid for one full year from date of purchase, \$25 for residents, \$50 for nonresidents. Residents 70 years and older, \$5.
- Seven Day, \$12 for residents, \$28 non-residents
- One Day, \$5 for residents, \$10 for non-residents

Free or reduced-fee fishing licenses are available if you are:

- Active duty military
- Military veteran with 40% or greater disability
- Senior citizen 70 years or older
- Legally blind
- Non-resident student attending a New York State college or university full-time
- Lifetime Fishing License

The DMV, DEC, and NYS Parks teamed up to offer a Lifetime Sporting License for anglers. Simply opt to have icons added to your NYS Driver License for \$12.50, or wait for your next license renewal at no charge.

Keep Aquatic Invasives out of the Adirondacks!

There are a variety of non-native species and fish diseases that threaten our native Adirondack fish communities. The introduction of non-native fish species such as yellow perch and golden shiners can have severe consequences on native fish such as brook trout. An aquatic nuisance algae, known as "didymo" or "rock snot" has recently been found in eastern New York. Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) is a serious disease of fish that has caused fish mortalities ranging from a few fish to thousands of fish. The most likely way VHS can become established in Adirondack fish is by humans introducing it through stocking or the use of infected bait fish. These are just a few examples of the non-natives that threaten Adirondack waters.

You can help prevent the spread of unwanted aquatic species and diseases and maintain the best possible fishing in the Adirondacks by carefully following these guidelines:

- follow the regulations regarding bait fish,
- always dispose of your bait bucket water on land,
- do not transport fish from one body of water to another,
- remove all mud and aquatic plants from all gear, waders, boats, motors, and trailers before departing from the access site,
- drain all water; including bilges, livewells, and bait tanks; before departing from the site,
- clean live wells and waders with a 10% bleach to water solution (1 3/4 cups bleach per gallon of water). Rinse well to remove all chlorine residue,
- if you cannot clean your equipment, wait 48 hours after it is completely dry before using on another body of water.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
518-402-8920 • www.dec.ny.gov




















For more information on preventing the introduction of invasive species and more information on the didymo: www.dec.ny.gov/animals/50121.html

Eleven Tips for Wilderness Ventures

- Study maps and guides of an area before venturing forth
- Develop your wilderness skills by taking shorter trips first
- Engage in a fitness program such as walking several miles a day
- Check short and long-range weather forecasts before heading out
- Inform someone of your planned route and time of return
- Sign in at all trail registers
- Carry a map, compass, and basic survival gear
- Beware of giardia; carry your water or use a quality filtering system
- Travel as lightly as possible
- Travel with a companion
- If you get completely lost, stay put and someone will find you

Species of the Adirondack Region

Nestled among the mountains, the lakes, ponds and running waters of the Adirondacks are an anglers dream come true. Whether you are fishing from a boat or the shoreline, on a populated lake or a backwoods treasure, with bobbers or electric downriggers, there is something for everyone in these fish-filled waters. With a wide variety of species varying by location and season, Adirondack lakes and ponds present a pleasant problem not found in other regions of the country: too many waters from which to choose.

 <p>Rainbow Trout Spring, summer & fall Stocked lakes and ponds; rivers Water temp: 56-70 degrees Fish mornings and evenings in summer</p>	 <p>Brook Trout Spring & early fall Water temp: 55-65 range Lakes, ponds and rivers</p>	 <p>Brown Trout Spring & fall, some summer Water temp: under 68 degrees Lakes, ponds and rivers Use a quiet approach. Measure up to 20 inches</p>
 <p>Yellow Perch Anytime Found in all shallow waters perfect for worms Great for kids</p>	 <p>Landlocked Salmon Spring, summer & fall Water temp: 58- 62 degrees Lakes, rivers and tributary mouths Also known as Atlantic Salmon Up to 24 inches</p>	 <p>Pumpkinseed Anytime Found in all shallow waters perfect for worms Great for kids</p>
 <p>Rock Bass Anytime Found in all shallow waters perfect for worms Great for kids</p>	 <p>Blue Gill Anytime Found in all shallow waters perfect for worms Great for kids</p>	 <p>Crappie Anytime Found in all shallow waters perfect for worms Great for kids</p>
 <p>Largemouth Bass Spring, summer & fall Lakes & ponds Prefer shallow, covered water Often found in weeds</p>	 <p>Bullhead Spawn in May and June Spring time is best season Cool and warm water temps Lakes and ponds Great for kids</p>	 <p>Pickerel Summer & fall Lakes Fierce fighters Find them in weeds</p>
 <p>Walleye Spring, summer & fall Great taste Stocked fish Best action in evening Like swift waters</p>	 <p>Carp Spring, summer & fall High numbers in St. Lawrence River Can reach 30-40 lbs Popular with European anglers Catch and release only</p>	 <p>Smallmouth Bass Spring, summer & fall Lakes and Ponds Found in rocky shoals and shorelines</p>
 <p>Northern Pike All seasons Lakes, ponds & rivers Best months are May and June Fierce fighters Often grow to trophy size</p>	 <p>Lake Trout Spring, summer & fall Water temp: 48-52 degrees Lakes and tributaries Troll in spring and fall Use downriggers or weights in summer</p>	

Protect Your Waters from Aquatic Invasive Species

Boats, trailers, waders and other fishing and boating equipment can spread aquatic invasive species from waterbody to waterbody unless properly cleaned, dried or disinfected after use. State law requires boaters to take these steps before launching their watercraft into public waterbodies. Although some invasive species such as Eurasian water-milfoil are readily visible to the human eye, many others are too small to be easily noticed. To avoid spreading invasive species please use the guidelines below:

- Check**
- Clean**
- Drain**
- Dry**
- Disinfect**
- Visit your local boat steward**

Check your boating and fishing equipment for invasive species. Carefully examine common attachment points such as trailer bunks, axles, rollers, lights, transducer, license plate, and motor props for any plants, mud, or debris. If your boat has been used in a waterbody known to have zebra mussels, run your hand along the hull. If it feels like sandpaper, it likely has mussels attached. Also inspect all gear used during your trip, including fishing gear and anchor lines.

Clean any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting equipment. Discard materials in an upland area or in one of the invasive species disposal stations that have been installed at many boat launch sites for your convenience. Do not wash or release material into a waterbody. Some invasive species, such as zebra mussels, can be difficult to remove from a boat hull. They first need to be killed by water or steam that is 140 degrees F, then they need to be removed by a brush or pressure washer. For help cleaning your boat and equipment, visit a decontamination station for a free boat wash (leaves DEC website). Dump unused bait in trash cans and bucket water on dry land, not in the water.

Drain all water holding compartments including ballast tanks, live wells, and bilge areas. Drain your boat before you leave an access site. Be sure to drain boat ballast tanks if your waterski or wakeboard has them. Drain your live well if you have one.

Dry boats, trailers and all equipment before use in another waterbody. The most effective way to ensure that no invasive species or fish diseases are transported to a new body of water is to completely dry your boating and fishing equipment. Drying times vary significantly depending on the type of equipment, air temperature, and relative humidity. While the outside of a boat will dry relatively quickly, bilge, live wells, and other parts of a boat not reached by the sun or lacking good air circulation will take additional time to dry completely. A minimum of 5-7 days drying time in dry, warm conditions is recommended.

Disinfect anything that came into contact with water if it cannot be dried before reuse. Hot water is an effective disinfection agent for all aquatic invasive species and fish diseases. Soak all equipment in water that is at least 140 degrees F for 30 seconds.

Visit Your Local Boat Steward To help protect New York's waters, boat stewards are located at various boat launches throughout the state. Boat stewards assist visitors with a free boat inspection to look for invasive species and they educate on the importance of cleaning, draining, and drying watercraft. They may also direct you to an on-site or nearby decontamination station. At decon stations, you may get your boat washed with high pressure hot water for free.

To find a boat launch with a steward or nearby decontamination station search 'boat stewards' at dec.ny.gov or visit adkcleanboats.com for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions about Clean, Drain, Dry, Regulations

1. What is the purpose of Cleaning, Draining and Drying?

All watercraft can transport aquatic invasive species (AIS). Cleaning, draining, and drying protects New York's waters by reducing the possibility of aquatic invasive species being introduced into new water bodies.

2. Is cleaning, draining, and drying my boat mandatory?

YES. New York State law requires that every boat (including motorboats, kayaks/canoes, and associated equipment) operated in the state is to be clean, drain, dry or treated before launching into a public water body. This requirement can be met by the boat operator OR by visiting a watercraft inspection station.

3. What is involved in cleaning, draining, and drying?

- Clean any mud, plants, fish, or animals from your boating and fishing equipment (trailer bunks, axles, rollers, lights, transducers, license plates, motor props, tackle, waders, etc.) and discard the material in trash cans, at a disposal station, or well away from the water body, so it won't get washed in during a storm.
- Drain all water holding compartments before you leave an access site.
- Dry everything thoroughly before using your boat or equipment in another water body. A minimum of 5-7 days in dry, warm conditions is recommended.
- Disinfect boats, trailers, and equipment. Use high pressure, hot water that is at least 140 degrees F or visit a boat steward/decontamination site to perform this step. Water holding compartments including bilges and live wells should be disinfected also.

4. What is a Watercraft Inspection Station (WISP)?

These are at popular boat ramps and roadside locations and are staffed with boat stewards (personnel typically wearing blue vests) who will educate boaters on aquatic invasive species and assist them in performing these steps.

5. Where can I find a map of steward and decontamination unit locations and learn about the Watercraft Inspection Steward Program?

The map can be found at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/107807.html> OR search 'boat stewards' at [dec.ny.gov](https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/107807.html) or visit [adcleanboats.com](https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/107807.html) for more information.

6. Are there different requirements when launching in the Adirondacks?

YES. A new state law requires all motorboats launching into public water bodies within 10 miles of and in the Adirondack Park, comply with Clean, Drain, Dry. AND operators must be in possession of a self-issued or steward-issued certificate obtained at an accredited aquatic invasive species inspection station operated by a watercraft inspection steward. These certificates must be kept with the motorboat when launched.

7. How do I certify my motorboat before launching?

Visit an inspection station to have your motorboat inspected and certified by a watercraft inspection steward. Self-issued certificates are also available and can be obtained for download and printing from DEC's website (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/107807.html>). Motorboat operators should perform all necessary Clean, Drain, Dry steps and then must fully complete these certificates before launching.

8. Is there a difference between self-issued certificates and an inspection certificate received from a boat steward?

No. The certificates may look different but both document your compliance with Clean, Drain, Dry, standards and should be always kept on your boat.

9. If I am re-launching into the same waterbody do I need to perform clean/drain/dry steps or obtain a new certification?

No. Operators should keep the certification form obtained during the initial launch.

10. Do I need a certificate for my kayak or canoe?

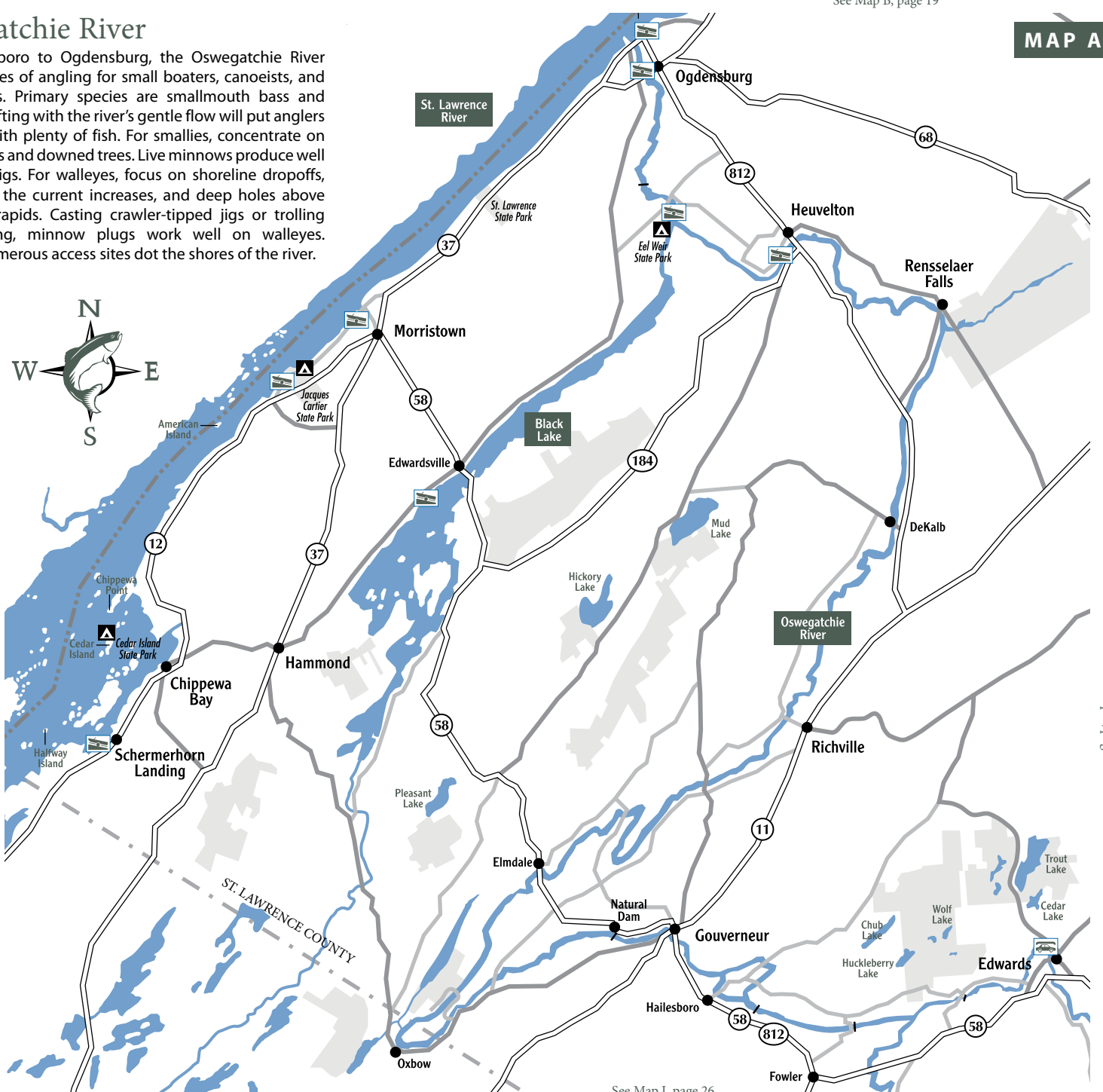
No. However, you are still required to Clean, Drain, Dry, your vessel and equipment.

11. Do these requirements apply to small boats with trolling motors?

Yes. All vessels that are driven with a motor (electric or fuel-driven) must follow these requirements.

See Map B, page 19

MAP A



See Map E, page 22

Oswegatchie River

From Hailesboro to Ogdensburg, the Oswegatchie River offers 70 miles of angling for small boaters, canoeists, and shore fishers. Primary species are smallmouth bass and walleyes. Drifting with the river's gentle flow will put anglers in contact with plenty of fish. For smallies, concentrate on boulder areas and downed trees. Live minnows produce well as do tube jigs. For walleyes, focus on shoreline dropoffs, areas where the current increases, and deep holes above and below rapids. Casting crawler-tipped jigs or trolling shallow-diving, minnow plugs work well on walleyes. **ACCESS:** Numerous access sites dot the shores of the river.



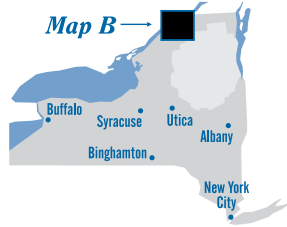
Black Lake

This 20-mile lake has been called a "fish factory" and "angler's paradise." National publications have rated Black Lake among the top ten bass lakes in the country. A 15-inch minimum length requirement in effect for the past six years has resulted in a growing number of big bass. Look for **largemouths** in the lake's numerous bays and along island shorelines. Traditional lures such as the jig and pig work well. Look for **smallmouths** around mid-lake and island shoals. Crayfish and tube jigs work well in the summer. In the fall, use small surface baits or crankbaits. **Panfishing** is phenomenal on the lake. Most outings result in combination catches of **yellow perch**, **black crappies**, and **bluegills**. Use tiny jigs tipped with grubs. **Northern pike** inhabit all of the lake's bays, and the best fishing occurs in spring and fall. Live minnows and spinnerbaits work well during both seasons. Due to a dedicated stocking program by local sportsmen and DEC, the **walleye** population is thriving. The narrow, currented stretches of the lake are prime walleye areas, and anglers have success using minnow plugs, crawler harnesses, and worm-tipped jigs. **ACCESS:** A state launch just south of Edwardsville provides quality access to the lake. *



See Map I, page 26

MAP B

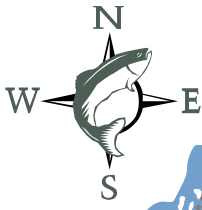


St. Lawrence River

The majestic St. Lawrence River holds good populations of **walleys, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, muskies, northern pike, carp, and panfish**. Anglers cast bucktail jigs, drift spinner and worm rigs, or troll minnow plugs for walleyes. Prime spots include Chippewa Point, American Island, Ogdensburg Bridge Shoals, Ogden Island, Croil Islands, and Long Sault Islands. These same areas hold plenty of smallmouths, too. In early summer, work along mainland points, island shorelines, rocky areas, and large flats. As summer progresses, bronzebacks congregate near deep-water

points, island drop offs, and mid-river shoals. For half a century, the river has been consistently producing some of the largest muskies in the world. For these monsters, troll deep-diving plugs at Halfway and Cedar islands, upriver from American Island, at the Ogdensburg Sandbar, at the Ogdensburg Bridge, at Coles Creek Campground, and near the oil tanks and Town Beach at Massena. All of the river's bays hold **northern pike and panfish**.

ACCESS: Public launches give access in every community along the river. Public campgrounds are located at Morristown, Coles Creek, and Massena. ❄️ (Also see map on previous page)



See Map A, page 18

See Map E, page 22

Grasse River

From Canton to Massena, the Grasse River has angling opportunities for small boaters, canoeists, and waders. Like the Oswegatchie River, the Grasse holds plenty of **smallmouths and walleyes**. Look for bronzebacks in rocky, current stretches many of which are best fished by wading. Effective lures include Mepps spinners, Mr. Twister spinners, and the Zara Puppy surface bait. Look for walleyes along shoreline dropoffs, deep-water bends, and deep areas near rapids. Try casting crawler-tipped jigs or trolling plugs such as the Shad Rap. Grasse River anglers will hook into an occasional muskie. Because the river's muskie population is fragile, anglers are encouraged to handle fish carefully and to practice catch-and-release. **ACCESS:** Access is available at various communities and bridge crossings along the river.



Little Salmon River

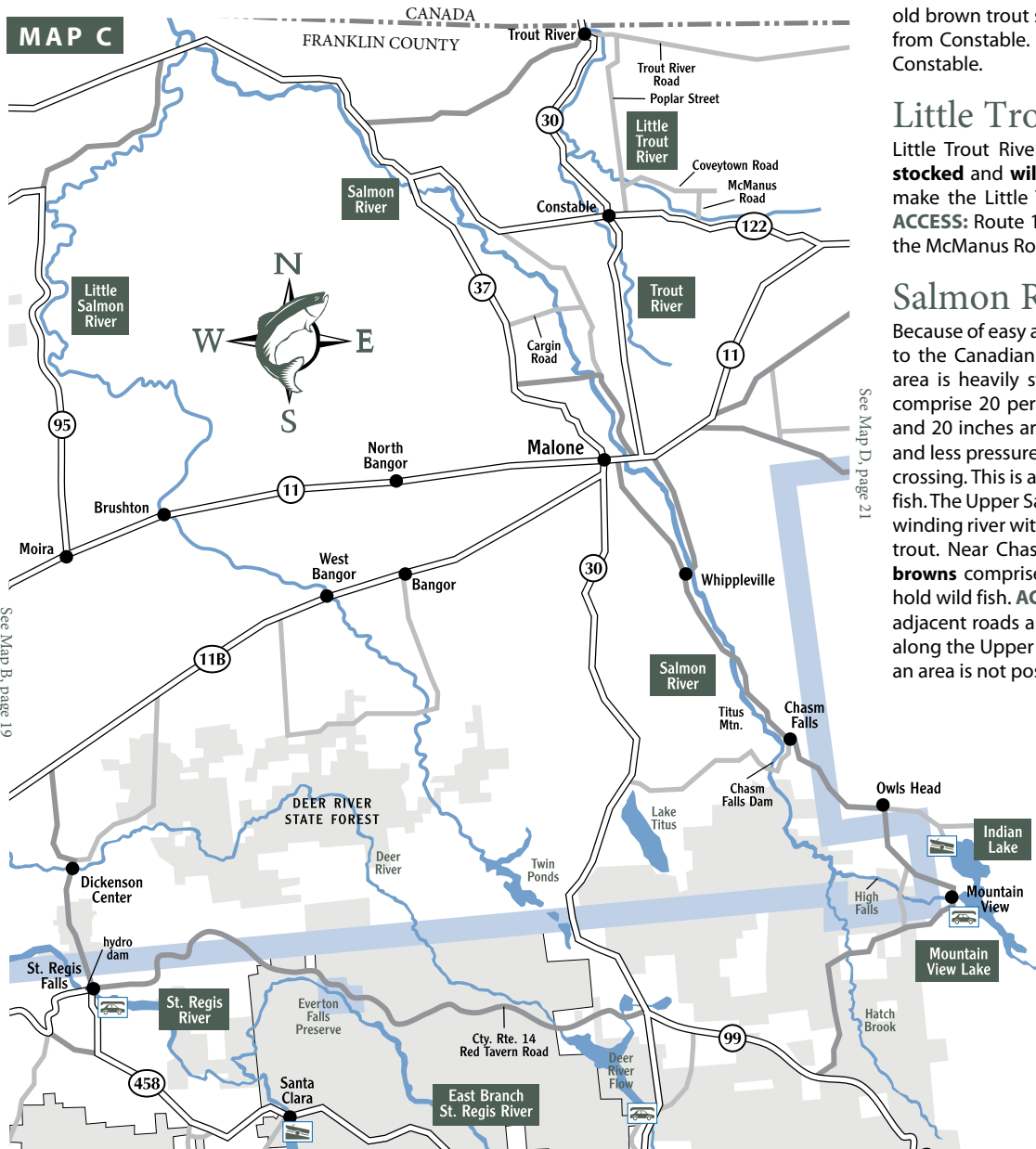
The river receives hefty stockings of **brown trout** but is best known for its population of **wild browns**. Upstream stretches also hold **wild brook trout**. The Little Salmon is wadable with quality "pocket fishing" opportunities. **ACCESS:** Anglers can access the Little Salmon River via a number of road crossings, the most prominent being Route 11 and Route 11B.

St. Regis River

The St. Regis River has excellent access and an abundance of **stocked browns and rainbows**. Oxygenated water below the hydro dam at St. Regis Falls draws fish throughout the summer. Both spin fishers and fly fishers have success in the St. Regis. Big nymphs and stone flies work well here. **ACCESS:** Anglers can access the river in the village of St. Regis Falls and from the campground just down river from the village.

East Branch St. Regis River

Part of the Champion Land Purchase, the East Branch St. Regis River offers canoe fishing for **wild brook trout**. The East Branch has eight miles of canoeable water upstream from Everton Falls, and the farther upstream one goes, the better the fishing. Prime spots include where tributaries enter the main flow. **ACCESS:** Take Cty. Rte. 14 (Red Tavern Road) three miles east of the village of St. Regis Falls. Look for the Nature Conservancy sign at Everton Falls Preserve.



See Map B, page 19

See Map F, page 23

Trout River

Trout River is heavily stocked with browns including a high number of two-year-olds. In addition, **wild brookies** fin this waterway especially in feeder tributaries. The best fishing can be found close to the Canadian border at the Trout River Road crossing where anglers generally work upstream. Pools and deep runs make this river a good option for spin fishers. You can also access the river at Constable, the site of two-year-old brown trout stockings. Fly fishers will find fishable water upstream from Constable. **ACCESS:** Trout River Road crossing and Route 122 in Constable.

Little Trout River

Little Trout River is a nice fly fishing area. This flow contains both **stocked and wild brook trout and brown trout**. Spring-fed streams make the Little Trout River a good choice throughout the summer. **ACCESS:** Route 122 parallels the river, and prime access spots include the McManus Road and Coveytown Road crossings.

Salmon River

Because of easy access and gentle flows, the Salmon River from Malone to the Canadian border is ideal for family outings. Furthermore, the area is heavily stocked with **brown and rainbow trout**. **Wild browns** comprise 20 percent of the population, and fish up to five years old and 20 inches are possible. Anglers who want to tackle more difficult and less pressured waters should head upstream from the Cargin Road crossing. This is a beautiful area that offers challenging fishing and wild fish. The Upper Salmon from Chasm Falls to Malone offers eight miles of winding river with a slow gradient and an abundance of stocked brown trout. Near Chasm Falls and Titus Mountain, **wild brookies and wild browns** comprise 50 percent of the population. All of the tributaries hold wild fish. **ACCESS:** Both sections of the river can be accessed from adjacent roads and at bridges. Because of limited public fishing rights along the Upper Section, anglers should always ask permission even if an area is not posted.

Mountain View Lake and Indian Lake

A navigable channel connects these two lakes. An abundance of weeds and stumps make Mountain View a veritable heaven for **northern pike and largemouth bass**. Indian Lake, too, harbors good numbers of pike and largemouths. Look for pike near weed beds and for bass around docks and boathouses. Indian Lake sees a high volume of recreational traffic during the summer so anglers are advised to plan their outings for early morning or to fish in the spring and fall. Both waters are popular ice-fishing destinations for northern pike. **ACCESS:** Mountain View Lake has a car-top launch while Indian Lake has a small launch on its northwest corner. ❄️

See Map D, page 21

See Map H, page 25



North Branch Great Chazy River

Stocked annually with 8,000 trout, the North Branch Great Chazy River is a first-class water for **brook** and **brown trout**. In fact, the river holds trophy browns, and fish over 20 inches are a possibility. **Rainbow trout** are also available on the North Branch. **ACCESS:** Numerous parking areas and miles of public fishing rights are located between Ellenburg Center and Mooers Forks.

Marble River

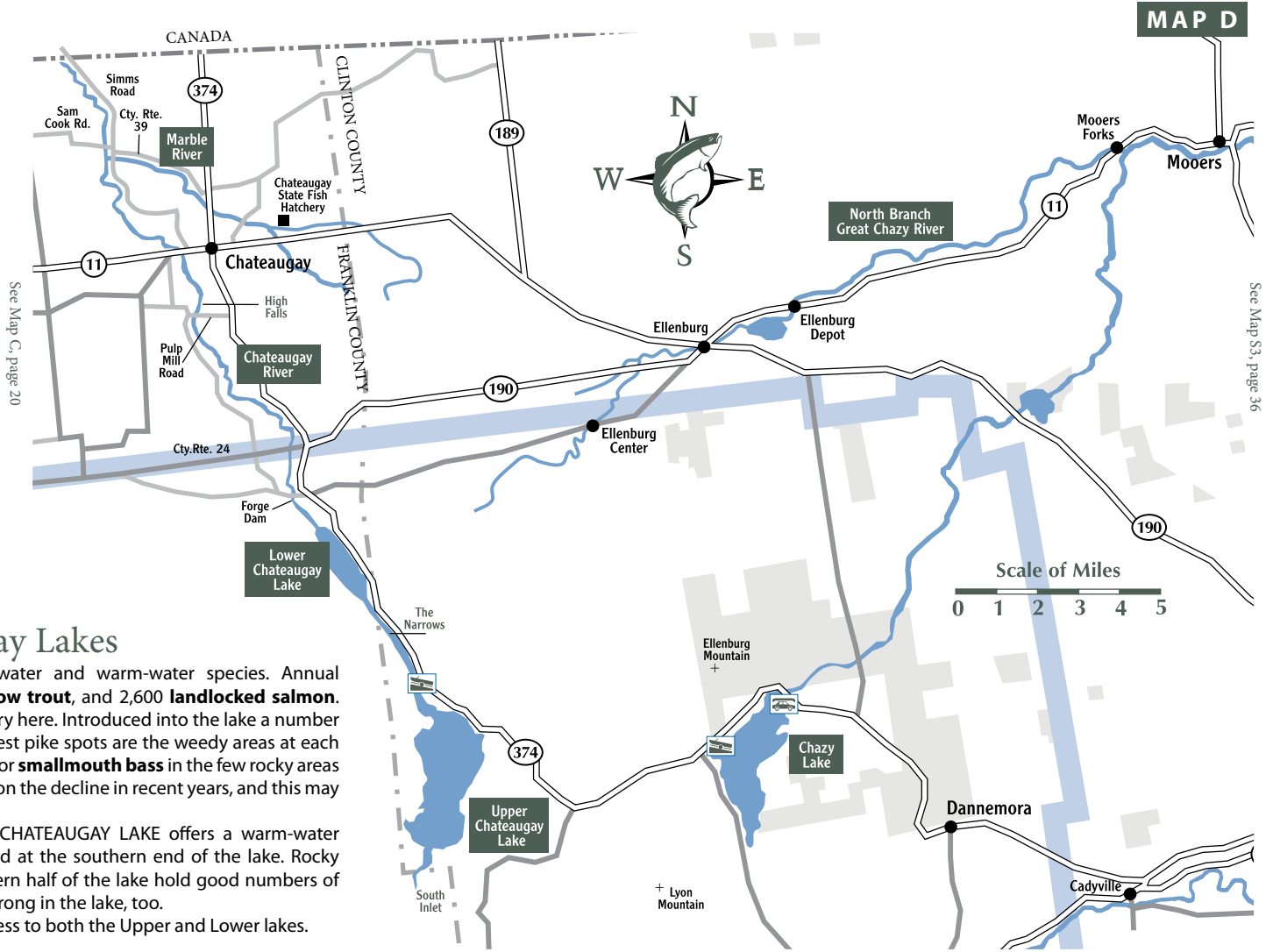
The Marble River offers five miles of angling from the Chateaugay River upstream beyond the Chateaugay Fish Hatchery. This spring-fed flow contains numerous pools and plenty of "pocket water," and it holds wild **rainbow**, **brown**, and **brook trout**. **ACCESS:** Anglers can access from the Sam Cook Road at the Chateaugay River and from Route 374 and County Route 39 north of the village of Chateaugay and Route 11. **WARNING:** Because whirling disease is present in rainbow trout here, anglers are asked not to dispose of these fish in any other waters.

Chazy Lake

Chazy Lake has a two-story fishery with year-round opportunities for trout and salmon. DEC stocks **rainbows** and **landlocks** here, but the lake trout population is wild and self-sustaining. Spring is a good time to troll smelt-imitation plugs, spoons, or flies especially near the tributaries on the west shoreline. For **smallmouth bass**, check out the rocky shorelines and dropoffs. Ice fishing is extremely popular at Chazy Lake. **ACCESS:** The Town of Dannemora launch, developed in cooperation with DEC, provides access at the northwest end. ❄️

Chateaugay River

The UPPER SECTION of the Chateaugay River, from the Forge Dam to High Falls, is stocked with **brook trout**, **rainbow trout**, and two-year-old **brown trout**. The river also holds **wild brookies** and **browns**. By accessing the river at Forge Dam, anglers will find good "pocket water" along the one-mile stretch down to County Route 24. The three-mile section from Route 24 downstream to Pulp Mill Road has limited access but good public fishing rights. This is a wild and challenging section of river that holds a combination of stocked and wild fish. The LOWER SECTION of the Chateaugay River, from High Falls to the Canadian border, has two popular access points. One is the Sam Cook Road near the Canadian border. Fishing is good here particularly where the Marble River enters. The second popular access is from the Route 11 bridge in Chateaugay. Once anglers maneuver a steep descent to the river, they will find a mile and a half of heavily stocked water upstream to High Falls. Stockings include two-year-old **browns**. Plenty of **wild browns** fin this stretch of river, too. **ACCESS:** Complete public fishing rights maps for the Chateaugay River can be found on the DEC website (see page 33).



See Map H, page 25

Upper and Lower Chateaugay Lakes

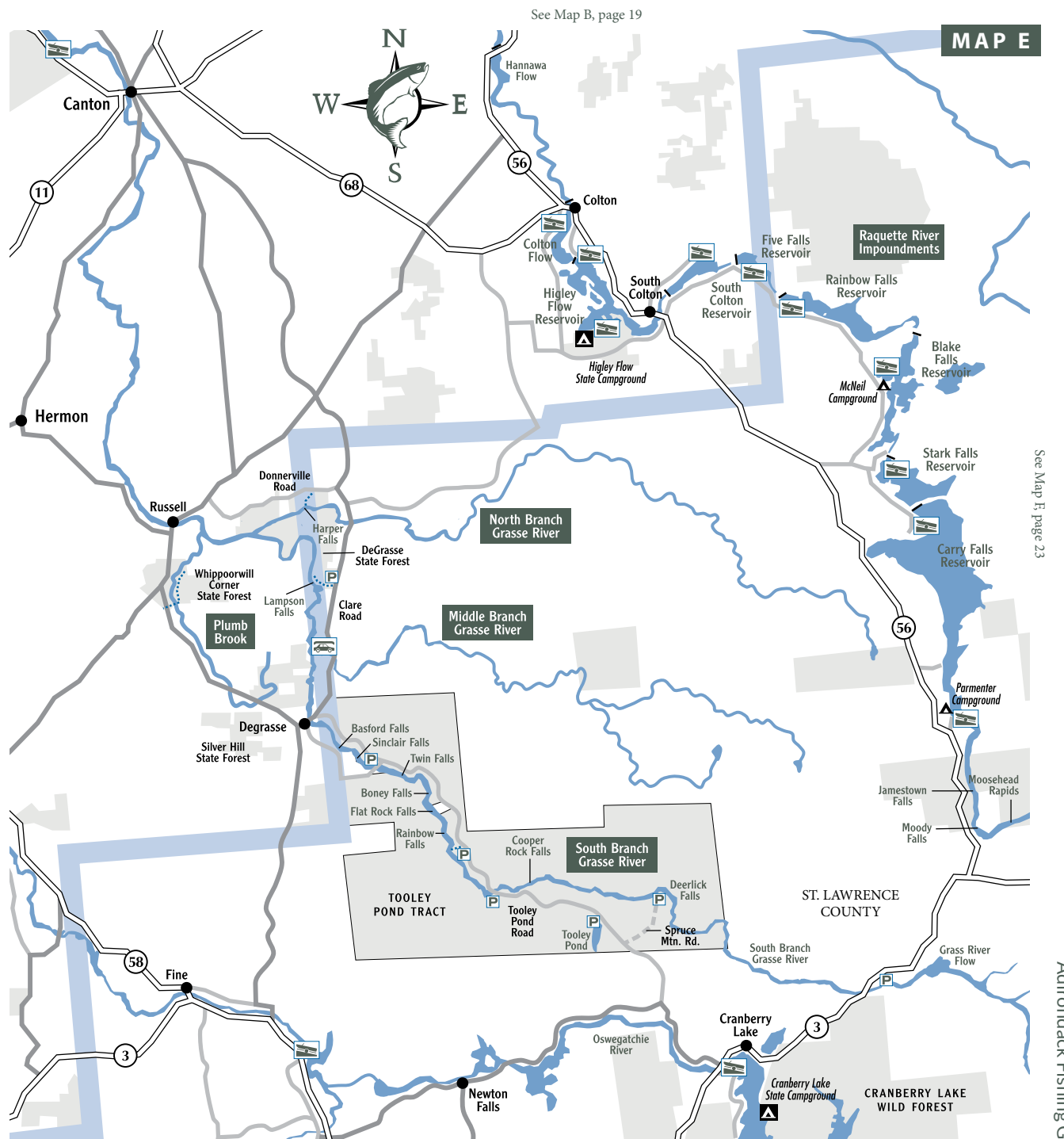
UPPER CHATEAUGAY LAKE contains both cold-water and warm-water species. Annual stockings consist of 9,000 **lake trout**, 4,500 **rainbow trout**, and 2,600 **landlocked salmon**. Still, a growing **northern pike** population is the story here. Introduced into the lake a number of years ago, pike are growing to 20 pounds. The best pike spots are the weedy areas at each end of the lake, particularly the southern end. Look for **smallmouth bass** in the few rocky areas around the lake. Trout and salmon fishing has been on the decline in recent years, and this may be due to northern pike feeding on them. ❄️
Shallower than Upper Chateaugay Lake, LOWER CHATEAUGAY LAKE offers a warm-water fishery. Look for **northern pike** in the Narrows and at the southern end of the lake. Rocky shorelines on the east and west sides in the southern half of the lake hold good numbers of **smallmouth bass**. **Yellow perch** populations are strong in the lake, too. **ACCESS:** A DEC launch in the Narrows provides access to both the Upper and Lower lakes.

Upper Grasse River and Plumb Brook

The Upper Grasse River and Plumb Brook rate highly for **brown trout**. Annual DEC stockings include nearly 700 browns in the South Branch of the Grasse and over 2,000 in the Grasse River. Plumb Brook sees an annual stocking of over 4,000 brown trout. **ACCESS:** Public access for the Upper Grasse River exists at DeGrasse State Forest, County Route 27 canoe launch, Lampson Falls Trail, Donnerville Road, County Route 17, and the bridge in Russell. Plumb Brook is accessible from Whippoorwill Corner State Forest and Silver Hill State Forest, both of which are located off County Route 17 between Russell and DeGrasse.

Raquette River Impoundments

The construction of hydroelectric dams on the Raquette River created a series of eight reservoirs called the Upper Impoundments. Carry Falls, Stark Falls, Blake Falls, Rainbow Falls, Five Falls, South Colton, Higley Flow, and Colton Flow comprise this 30-mile stretch of river. **Smallmouth bass**, **walleys**, **yellow perch**, and **northern pike** are the most popular species in the reservoirs. Carry Falls and Stark Falls also have **tiger muskies**. Carry Falls, the largest reservoir, covers 3,170 acres in a wilderness setting. Stark Falls comprises 586 acres, and it receives significant pressure because of the walleye population. The 710-acre Blake Falls Reservoir is very popular because of the good fishing and McNeil Campground. At 122 acres, Five Falls offers a quiet and scenic angling location. South Colton (230 acres) and Higley Flow (1,135 acres) have quite a few private cottages on their shores. Higley also has a state campground. Colton Flow (154 acres) has moderate development and is fished primarily by local residents. **ACCESS:** Public access is available at each of the Upper Impoundments.



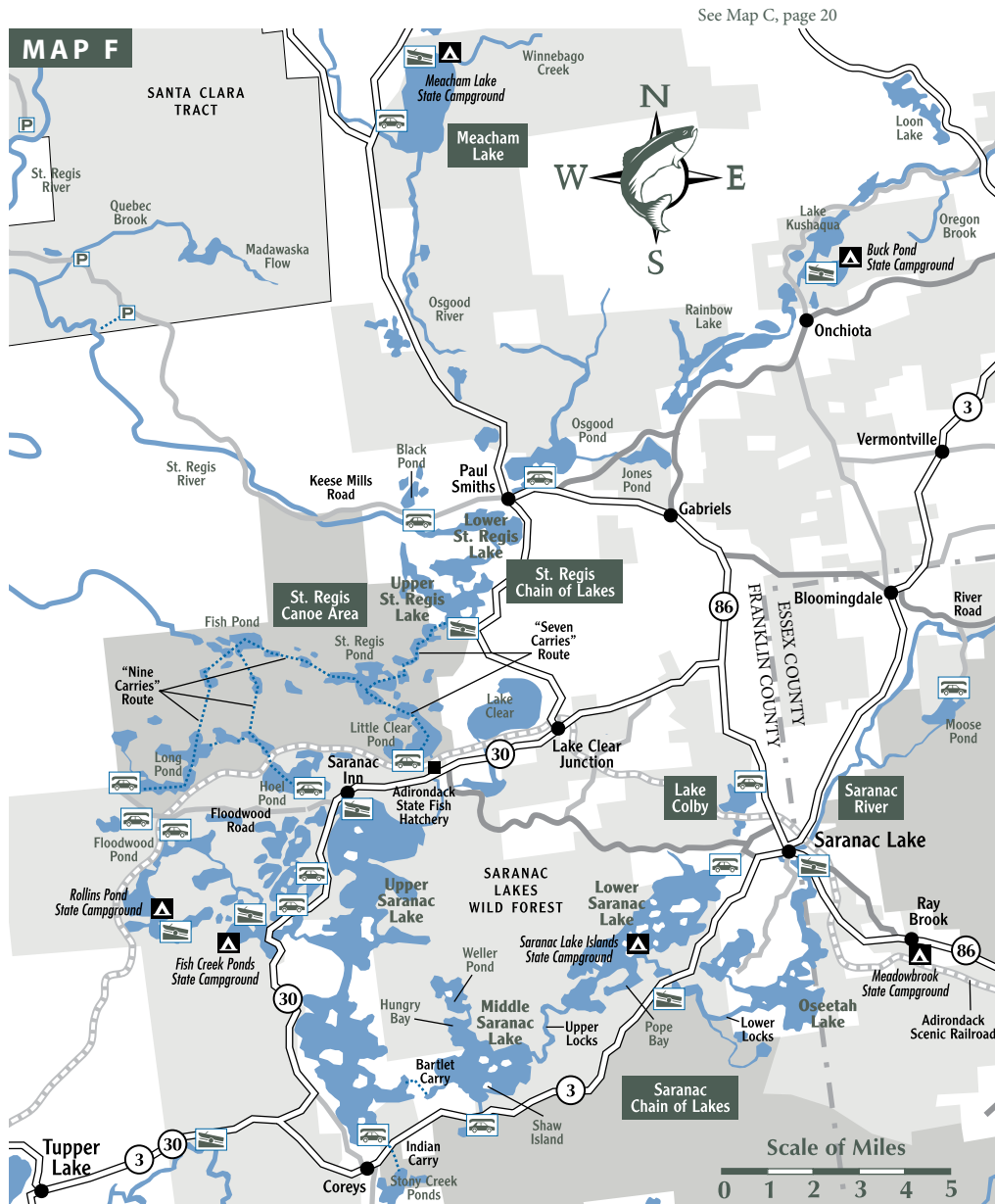
See Map K, page 28



Saranac River, see pages 21-22

Meacham Lake

A state campground makes Meacham Lake an ideal site for a fishing/camping experience. This water holds **splake**, **brown trout**, **northern pike**, **smallmouth bass**, and **yellow perch**. In the spring, look for splake and browns near the mouth of Winnebago Creek where fish feed on smelt. The best pike areas are the weeds at the lake's southeast end while the rocky areas along the west shoreline promise the best smallmouth action including the possibility of a 5-pound trophy. **WARNING:** Because of mercury contaminants, there is a health advisory on yellow perch over 10 inches. **ACCESS:** Anglers are advised that the launch at Meacham Lake State Campground here has a poor gradient, and launching may require manually pushing a boat off the trailer. Canoeists can use the car-top launch near the outlet dam just off Route 30.



St. Regis Canoe Area

The St. Regis Canoe Area, New York State's only designated canoe area where no motorized watercraft are allowed, is a jewel for both anglers and canoeists. Visitors here are guaranteed a wilderness experience in their pursuit of Adirondack **brook trout**. This area covers 18,000 acres and has 58 bodies of water. Ponds accessible via the "Nine Carries" and "Seven Carries" are good bets for wild brookies. Other available species include **lake trout**, **rainbow trout**, and **splake**. The traditional "wabblar and worm" technique, believed to have been developed in these ponds, remains the most popular technique among modern anglers, but spinners and nymphs also work well. **ACCESS:** Canoe launch sites at Little Clear Pond, Upper St. Regis Lake, Hoel Pond, and Long Pond (short carry to lake) provide access. Lightweight canoes are recommended for those routes requiring long portages such as the "Nine Carries" route.

Saranac Chain of Lakes

Angling and camping opportunities abound on the massive Saranac Chain of Lakes. Testimony to the quality fishing here is the fact that ESPN, for three consecutive years, chose the Saranac Chain for the bass fishing segment of the Great Outdoor Games. Available species include **largemouth bass**, **smallmouth bass**, **northern pike**, **yellow perch**, **lake trout**, **brown trout**, and **rainbow trout**. Osetah is a good bet for catching numbers of northern pike. On Lower Saranac, work the islands and shoals for smallies, and check out Pope Bay and the weedbeds in the southwest portion for northern pike. On Middle Saranac, try the shoals near Shaw Island for smallmouths and Hungry Bay for pike. On Upper Saranac, fish the weedy bays for northern pike and the deep water in the southern half for trout. **ACCESS:** Two sets of locks connect all the lakes except for Upper Saranac which must be accessed separately. Anglers will find quality launches throughout the chain.

St. Regis Chain of Lakes

The St. Regis Chain of Lakes is a good bet for small boaters who are looking for **smallmouth bass**, **largemouth bass**, or **northern pike**. All three species can be found on Upper St. Regis Lake by concentrating on marked shoals, downed trees, and boat docks. Anglers will also find **landlocked salmon** and **lake trout** on Upper St. Regis. The best area is the northwest end which has deep water and structure. Lower St. Regis Lake is a prime water for largemouths. Navigable channels connect the three lakes. **ACCESS:** Anglers can access the St. Regis Chain from a small town launch at Upper St. Regis Landing and from Lower St. Regis Lake at the Keese Mill Road car-top launch site for Black Pond or the trailhead parking for St. Regis Mountain.

Lake Colby

Lake Colby is stocked annually with yearling **rainbow** and **brown trout** as well as two-year-old browns. In addition, 50-100 broodstock salmon are placed here every autumn. These **landlocked salmon** weigh 5-14 pounds. ❄️



Franklin Falls Flow

The **walleye** is king at Franklin Falls Flow. Walleye were first placed here in 1993, and in 1997 DEC began an annual stocking of advanced fingerlings. Top producers are jigs and worms or spinners and worms, and the best areas are where the rapids come into the flow and in the old river channel. Franklin Falls Flow also has good **smallmouth bass** and **bullhead** fishing. **ACCESS:** Access is available via a DEC hand launch and from a parking area near the bridge above the dam.

Union Falls Flow

Annual stockings of fry enhance the **walleye** population at Union Falls Flow. Look for fish along the edges of the old Saranac River channel, and use traditional walleye techniques. Union Falls also holds **northern pike** and **large yellow perch**. **ACCESS:** For a small fee, anglers can access the flow from the launch at a private campground. The launch has a 10-horsepower restriction on motors.

Taylor Pond

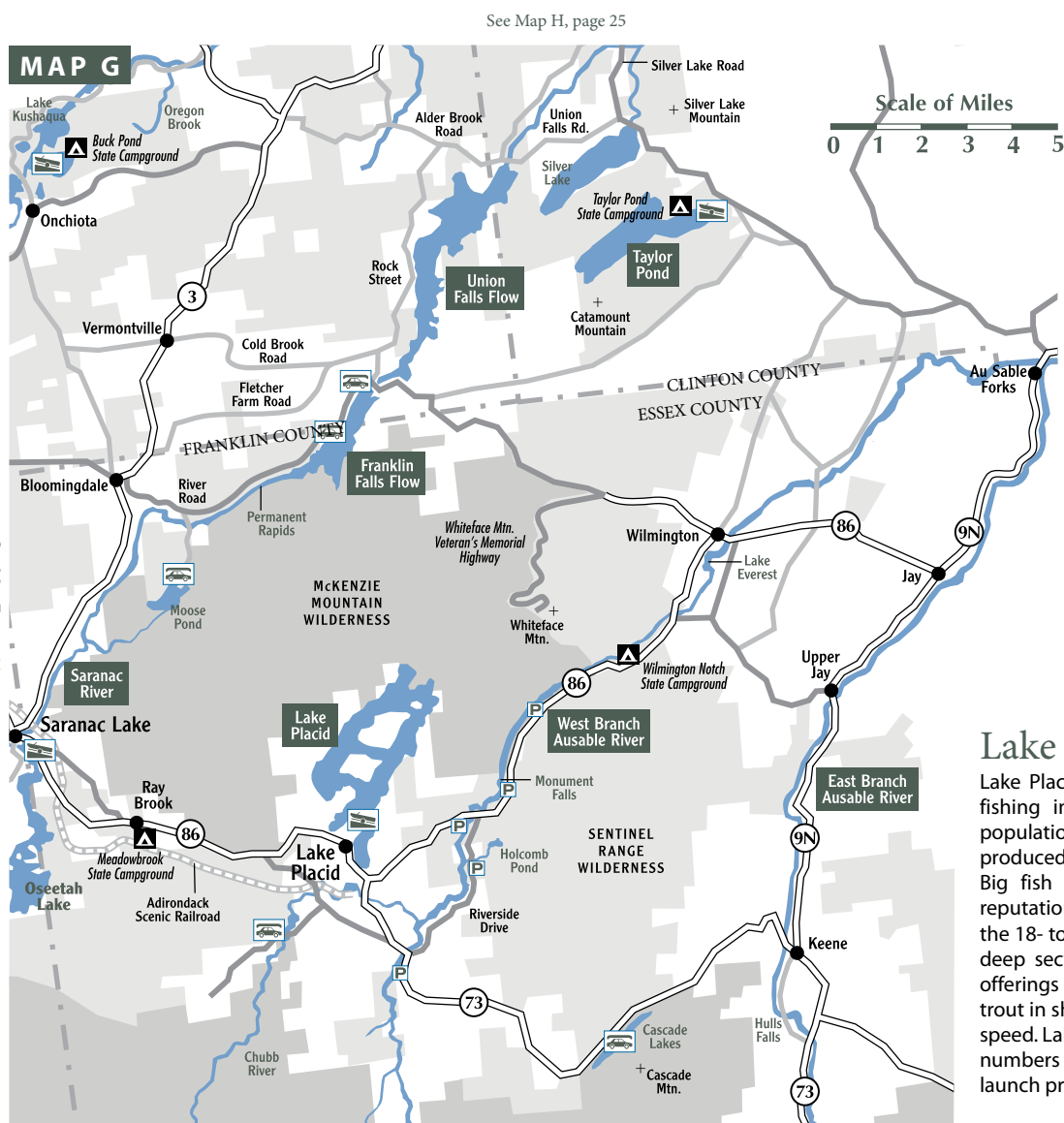
Taylor Pond sees an annual stocking of **landlocked salmon**, **kokanee (red) salmon**, and **lake trout**. In addition, the lake has a self-sustaining population of lake trout including some big ones. Fishery biologists believe a state-record lake trout lives here. The landlocked salmon do well here, too, as evidenced by the number of trophy fish taken each year. Kokanee salmon are showing up more frequently in angler catches. Conventional trolling techniques will take lakers, and trolling streamers in early spring works well for salmon. In both cases, smelt imitations are the lures of choice. **ACCESS:** A DEC campground on Taylor Pond has a paved launch.

Saranac River

The Upper Saranac River, from Bloomingdale to Franklin Falls Flow, has no wild fish but is stocked with **rainbow** and **brown trout** including two-year-old browns. Saranac's "pocket water" makes it a good choice for both spin fishers and fly fishers. Because of rounded, slippery boulders, solid wading skills are required. This river sees some nice evening hatches. **ACCESS:** Anglers can access the water from six different spots along the River Road just east of Bloomingdale.

West Branch Ausable River

Because of its natural beauty and high fish populations, the West Branch of the Ausable River ranks among the premier trout streams in the country. **Browns** are the most prevalent species here, but opportunities also exist for nice **rainbows** and even **brook trout** in the upper stretches. Because of its large size and impressive hatches, the West Branch is excellent for fly fishing, especially for skilled waders who want to tackle pocket water. **SPECIAL REGULATIONS:** From the mouth of Holcomb Pond outlet on Riverside Drive downstream to the marked boundary 2.2 miles downstream of Monument Falls on Route 86, anglers must use **artificial lures only**. This is a "no kill" stretch that is open year-round. **ACCESS:** Anglers will find an abundance of access along Route 86 and portions of Riverside Drive and Route 73.



East Branch Ausable River

The East Branch of the Ausable River offers fishing for **brown** and **rainbow trout**. Despite heavy stockings of both species, some sections of the river hold low numbers of fish. An angler's best bet for finding fish is to seek out the higher gradient stretches of river. The East Branch is wide and wadable, making it a good choice for fly fishing. **ACCESS:** The river has plenty of public fishing rights scattered from Keene Valley to Ausable Forks.

Lake Placid

Lake Placid offers quality **lake** and **rainbow trout** fishing in a truly scenic setting. The lake trout population consists of wild fish, and in 1986 it produced a state-record laker weighing 32 pounds. Big fish are possible today, but the lake has a reputation for producing numbers of lake trout in the 18- to 22-inch range. Lakers can be found in any deep section of the lake where anglers troll their offerings slowly and near bottom. Look for rainbow trout in shallower areas, and use a moderate trolling speed. Lake Placid also has decent **smallmouth bass** numbers on its rocky shoals. **ACCESS:** A paved DEC launch provides access at the lake's southern end.

Map H



Upper Chateaugay Lake, see page 21
 Union Falls Flow and Taylor Pond, see page 24
 Lake Champlain, see page 36

Saranac River

The MIDDLE SECTION of the Saranac River, from Union Falls Flow to Cadyville, has good fishing for **brown** and **brook trout**. Annual stockings here number over 30,000 trout including 2,000 two-year-old browns. **ACCESS:** Access is limited in the uppermost sections of this section, but there are plenty of public fishing rights stretches both upriver and downriver of Clayburg. Parking areas and public fishing rights also exist off the Silver Lake Road. The primary attraction in the LOWER SECTION of the Saranac in the Plattsburgh area is **landlocked salmon**. This fishery occurs in spring and fall when landlocks migrate into the river from Lake Champlain. **Brown trout** and **steelhead** are also available, and the Saranac is generally recognized as the best Lake Champlain tributary for steelhead. **ACCESS:** Good public fishing rights exist in Plattsburgh for both spin and fly fishers who use smelt-imitation plugs, spoons, and flies.

Ausable River

The Main Stem of the Ausable River—Ausable Forks to Lake Champlain—has a mixture of **brown** and **rainbow trout**. This is a big river but still very wadable. The best fishing occurs from Ausable Forks to Clintonville. **ACCESS:** Anglers will find good access and public fishing rights in the Ausable Forks area. The Lower Main Stem of the Ausable River—Ausable Chasm to Lake Champlain—is primarily a spring fishery for **landlocked salmon**, and the very best action occurs from late April through mid-May. Wading opportunities exist upstream of the Route 9 bridge while canoeists and those with car-top boats typically troll the waters downstream of the bridge. Smelt and minnow-imitation flies, spoons, and plugs work well for landlocks. **ACCESS:** Walk in from the Route 9 bridge crossing or launch car-top boats from the Ausable Point State Campground access road and from the campground.

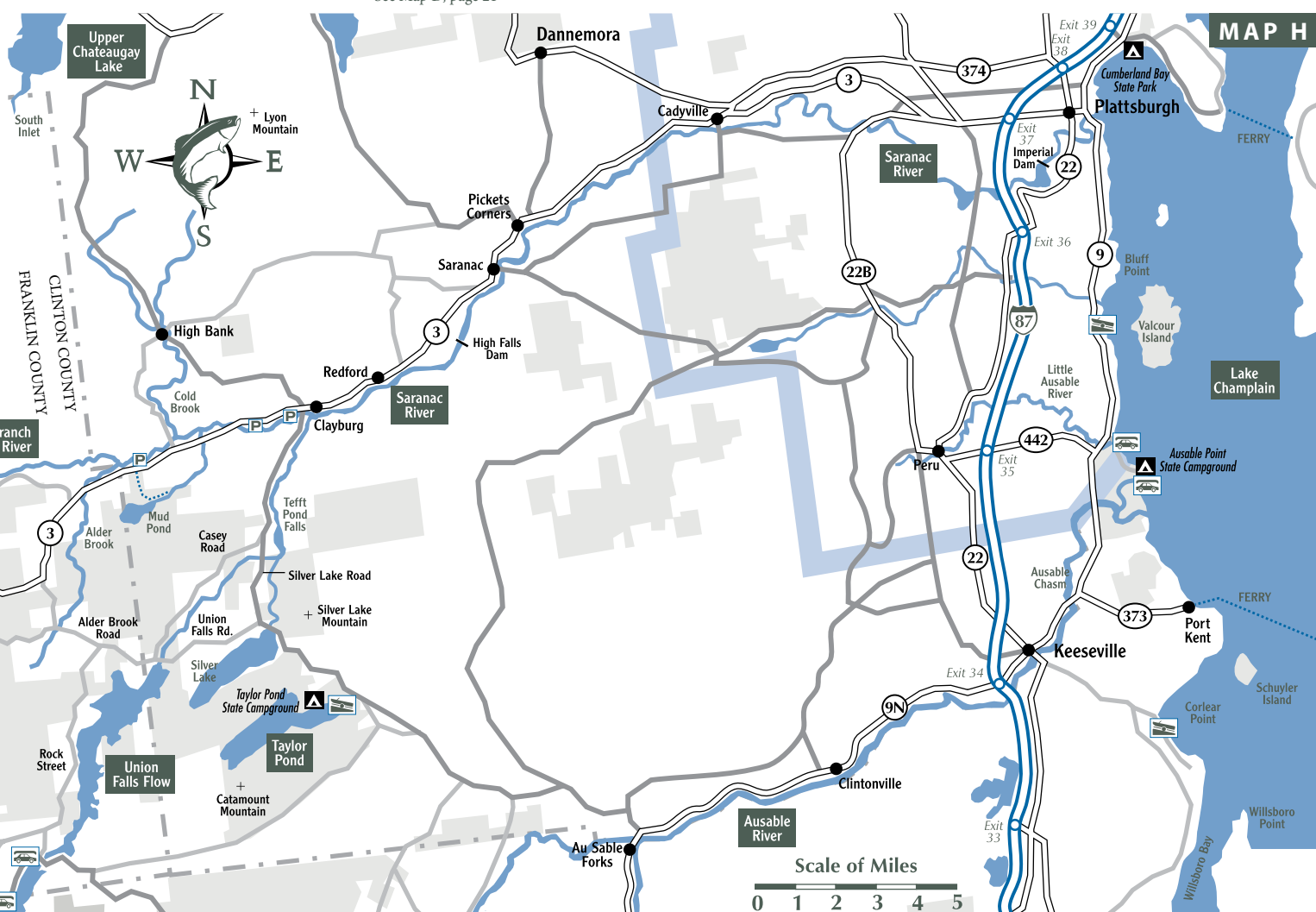
North Branch Saranac River

The North Branch of the Saranac River, Lake Kushaqua to Clayburg, offers good opportunities for **brown, brook** and **rainbow trout**. Testimony to the quality of fishing here is the designated Trophy Section from the mouth of Cold Brook upstream to Alder Brook. This stretch is open year-round, and anglers must use **artificial lures only**. **ACCESS:** Anglers will find an abundance of public fishing rights between Oregon Brook and Clayburg.



See Map F, page 23

See Map D, page 21



See Map G, page 24

Lake Bonaparte

Lake Bonaparte sees heavy recreational use during the summer, but the lake offers quality, year-round fishing for both warmwater and coldwater species. Available fish include **smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, northern pike, panfish, brown trout,** and **lake trout**. Every year the lake yields a number of trophy bass, pike, and brown trout. Prime smallmouth spots include the rocky islands and mid-lake shoals marked by buoys. Largemouths along with northern pike and a variety of panfish hang out along weedlines and in openings in weedbeds. Spring and fall offer the best trout fishing, and anglers have success by trolling minnow plugs or spoons at Sand Bay, Round Island, Benton Point, Bullrock Point, High Rock, the open water between Rock and Birch islands, and the open water between Birch and Sister islands. A growing number of anglers are experiencing lake trout success by drifting live minnows. **ACCESS:** Boaters should note that the state launch at Sand Bay on the north shore has a poor gradient, but private marinas are available for launching large boats. ❄️

Map I



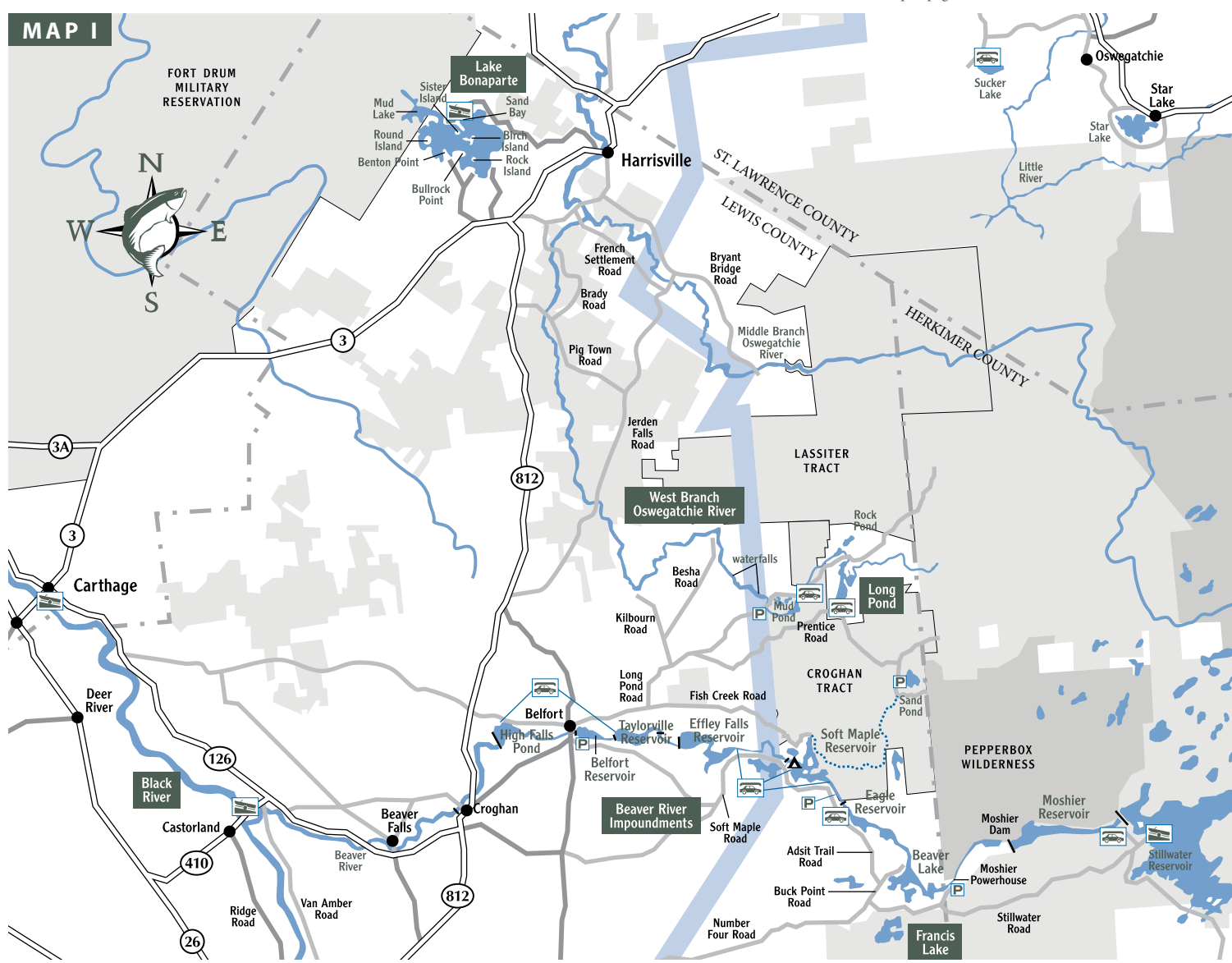
Black River, Beaver River Impoundments, and Francis Lake, see page 27

West Branch Oswegatchie River

The upper reaches of the West Branch of the Oswegatchie River in the Town of Croghan offer **brook trout** opportunities. Annual stockings consist of 750 brookies. 360 brook trout measuring 9.5 inches are stocked annually in the West Branch in the Town of Diana. **ACCESS:** Spin fishers and fly fishers can access the Upper West Branch from the Kilbourn, Bessa, and Long Pond roads. In the Town of Diana access is available at a number of bridge crossings.

Long Pond

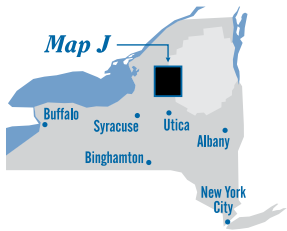
Previously stocked with **splake** and **red salmon**, Long Pond presently receives stockings of **brook trout**. Long Pond is a deep, dark-water lake. The best fishing occurs in spring and fall when anglers troll or cast shoreline areas, especially where cover is present. **ACCESS:** To reach the state hand-launch site here, anglers must travel 15 miles of secondary road from Route 12.



See Map E, page 22

See Map K, page 28

See Map J, page 27



Beaver River Impoundments

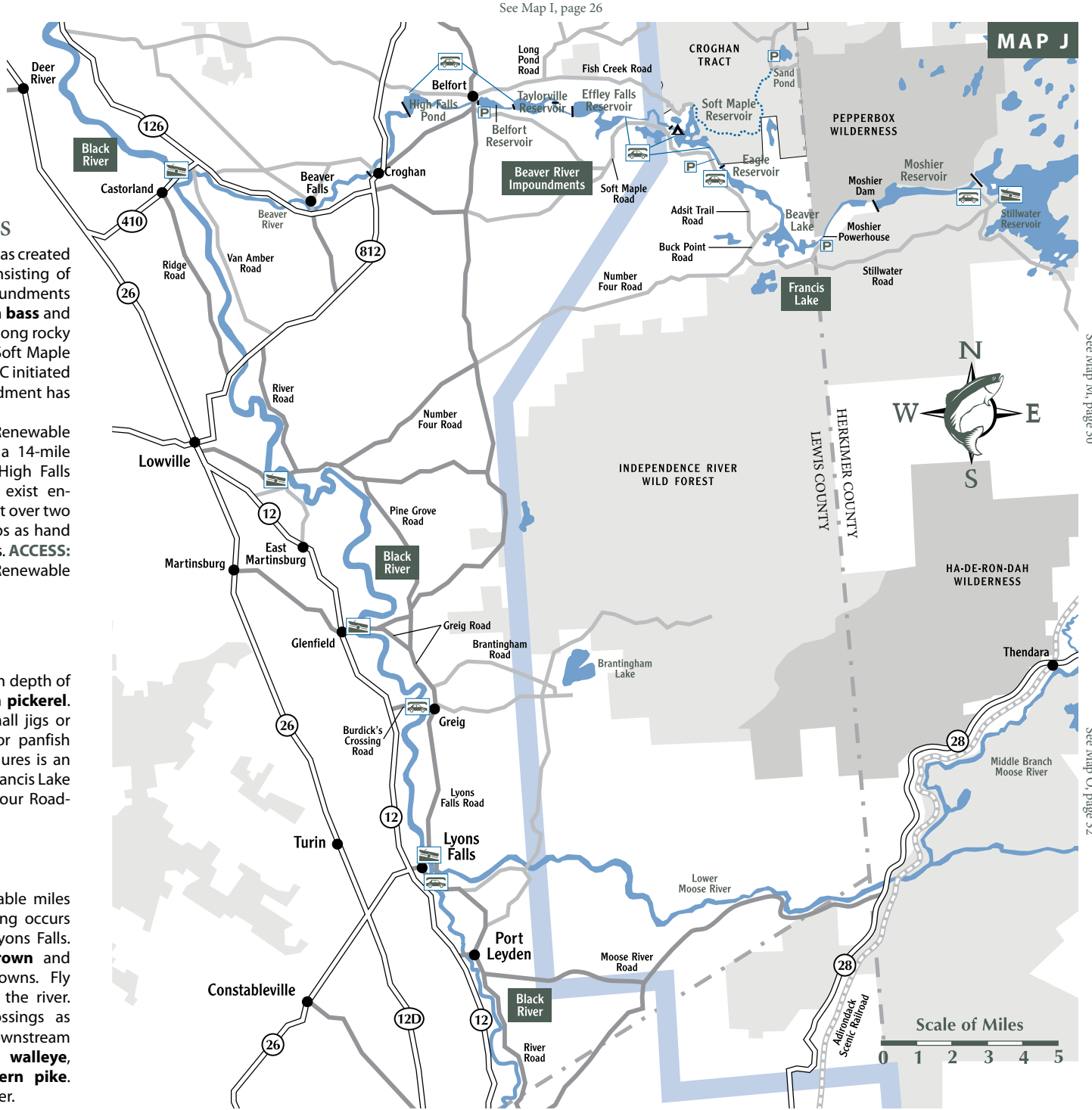
A series of hydro-electric dams on the Beaver River has created the Beaver River Impoundments, a waterway consisting of nine reservoirs and one lake. The Beaver River Impoundments offer a scenic and peaceful setting for **smallmouth bass** and **tiger muskie** angling. Bronzebacks can be found along rocky shorelines while tiger muskies prefer weed lines. Soft Maple Reservoir is the best bet for muskies because the DEC initiated a stocking program here in 1993, and the impoundment has received over a thousand fish annually since then. Canoeing is extremely popular along Brookfield Renewable Power's Beaver River Canoe Route which offers a 14-mile venture from Moshier Impoundment put-in to High Falls Impoundment take-out. Camping opportunities exist en-route, and the trip includes six portages totaling just over two miles. Canoeists can, of course, choose shorter trips as hand launches are located on most of the impoundments. **ACCESS:** A free map of the area is available from Brookfield Renewable Power (315-779-2400).

Francis Lake

Francis Lake is shallow and weedy with a maximum depth of 15 feet. This water is home to **panfish** and **chain pickerel**. Both species can be found along weed lines. Small jigs or worms suspended below a bobber work well for panfish while casting spinners, spoons, plugs, or surface lures is an effective way to entice pickerel to strike. **ACCESS:** Francis Lake is accessible via a short carry from the Number Four Road-Stillwater Road off Route 26.

Black River

The Black River, a north-flow river, offers 73 fishable miles of flow across Lewis County. The best trout fishing occurs in the 8.5-mile stretch from the county line to Lyons Falls. Annual stockings here number over 11,000 **brown** and **rainbow trout** including 750 two-year-old browns. Fly fishing is popular in the upper-most portion of the river. Anglers can access the river from bridge crossings as well as from a half-dozen hand launches. Downstream from Lyons Falls, warmwater fishing exists for **walleye**, **smallmouth bass**, **chain pickerel**, and **northern pike**. **ACCESS:** Both hand and trailer launches dot the river.



See Map I, page 26

See Map M, page 30

See Map O, page 32



Cranberry Lake

Cranberry Lake offers good fishing for **brook trout** and **smallmouth bass**. Every year the lake yields brookies weighing over four pounds. Annual stockings of brook trout number 20,000. The best fishing occurs in spring at the mouths of the lake's various brooks and creeks. Try trolling Mepps spinners, Lake Clear Wabblers and worms, or streamer flies. Smallmouth bass can be caught throughout the summer by working points and rocky areas. Wind-blown shorelines can be particularly productive. Successful techniques include drifting with live minnows, trolling minnow plugs, or casting in-line spinners, small crankbaits, or tipped jigs. Evening is the most productive fishing time. The Oswegatchie River at Cranberry Lake's outlet is a popular trout water because of easy access and high numbers of **stocked browns** and **brookies**. **ACCESS:** Cranberry Lake has a state launch, campground, and handicap-accessible fishing pier. Most of the shoreline is state owned so camping opportunities abound at the lake. Car-top boaters can also launch near Wanakena.

Massawepie Area

Massawepie Lake, Long Pond, Deer Pond, Town Line Pond, and Pine Pond offer wilderness trout-fishing opportunities. In 1992, Canton angler Rick Mace caught a state-record brook trout (21 inches; four pounds and 13 ounces) in the Massawepie Area. In addition to **brook trout**, the area has **lake trout**, **landlocked salmon**, and **smallmouth bass**. Trolling spinners, spoons, or wabblers and worms is popular among spin fishers while fly fishers opt to troll their favorite flies on a sinking line. **RESTRICTIONS:** Public use is prohibited from June 15 to August 31 when the Boy Scouts are in residence. **ACCESS:** Except for Pine Pond, which requires a paddle across the lower end of Massawepie Lake, the waters have roadside access.

Five Ponds Wilderness Area

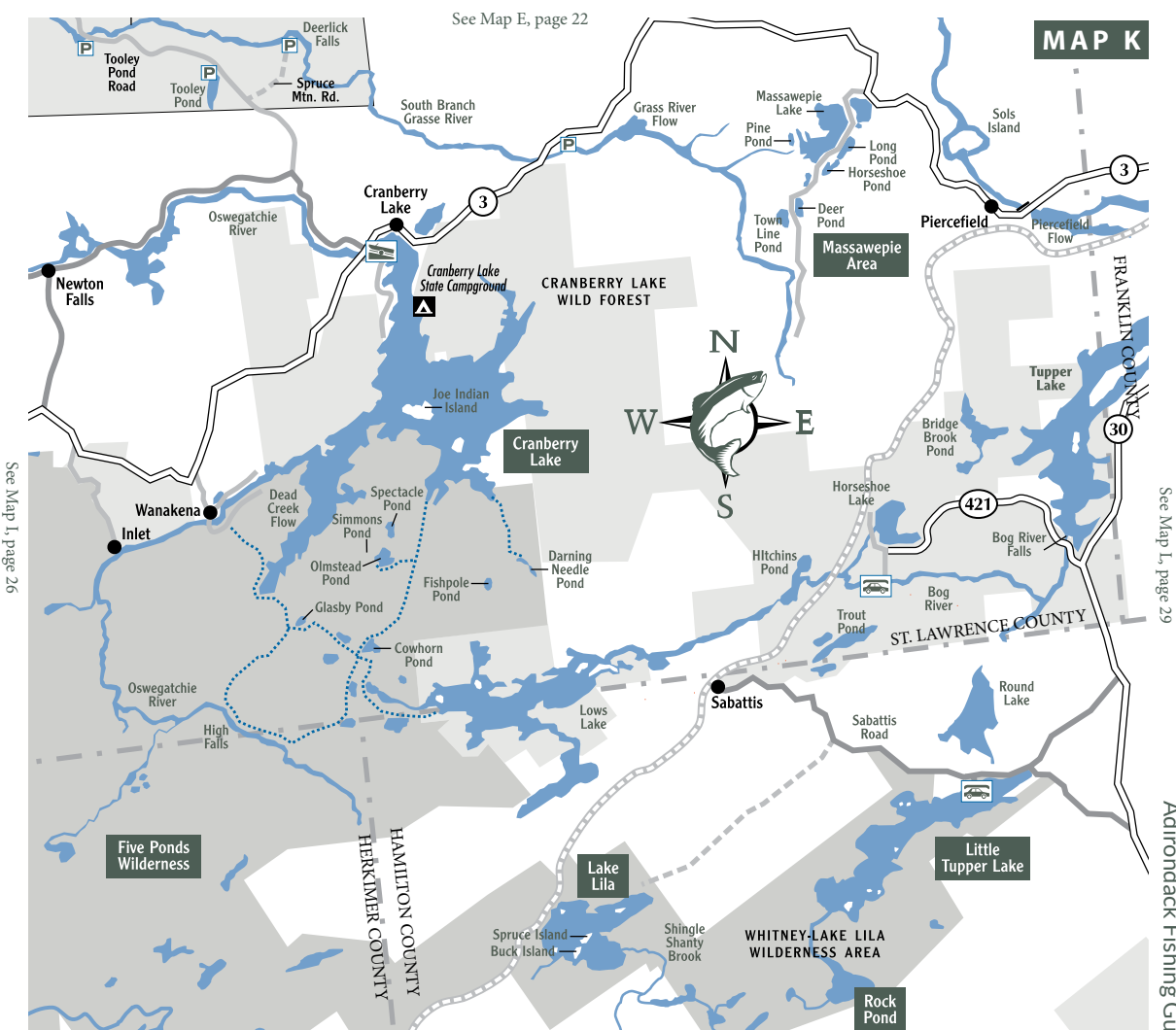
Bordering the southern portion of Cranberry Lake, the Five Ponds Wilderness Area has a network of well-marked trails, and the area offers a remote experience for **brook trout**. Among the ponds that have been stocked with brook trout in past years are Cowhorn, Darning Needle, Fishpole, Glasby, Nicks, Olmstead, Simmons, and Spectacle. The uppermost section of the Oswegatchie River flows through the Five Ponds Wilderness Area, and this is a good choice for canoeists who are seeking Adirondack brook trout. **ACCESS:** These trout are accessible to anglers who are willing to do some hiking and carry inflatable rafts.

Lake Lila

Lake Lila sits in a wilderness area (no motors) with primitive camping at designated sites. **Smallmouth bass** and **lake trout** opportunities are first-rate. For smallies, work any rocky area particularly in the bay at the lake's northeast end. For lakers, fish the deep water west of Buck and Spruce islands. Lake trout see limited pressure here despite the high density of fish, including some over 30 inches. The catch and release or no kill regulation pertains to trout only. Statewide regulations apply for all other species. Largemouth bass were illegally introduced into these waters years ago and have proliferated. **ACCESS:** Long dirt access road and a one-third mile carry to reach the water's edge.

Little Tupper Lake and Rock Pond

Little Tupper Lake and Rock Pond were part of the state's 1997 Whitney Land Purchase. These waters offer a wilderness experience (no motors) for **wild brook trout**. In fact, Little Tupper Lake produces a genetically unique "heritage" strain of brook trout that is descended directly from trout that first reached the lake 12,000 years ago when the glaciers receded. Little Tupper and Rock Pond are "no kill" waters, and special regulations call for the use of **artificial lures only**. Little Tupper holds 3- to 5-pound brookies but not in high densities. Rock Pond drains into Little Tupper at the south end, and it offers better fishing in terms of numbers of fish. **ACCESS:** Rock Pond requires a seven-mile canoe trip from the access site at Little Tupper Headquarters off the Sabattis Road. Canoeists on Little Tupper are advised that the lake gets easily windswept.

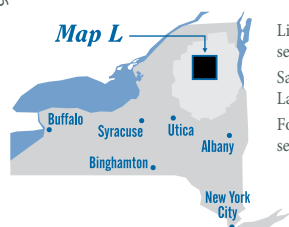


See Map E, page 22

See Map I, page 26

See Map L, page 29

See Map M, page 30



Little Tupper Lake, see page 28
Saranac Chain of Lakes, see page 23
Forked Lake, see page 30

Tupper Lake, Raquette Pond, and Simon Pond

Because of the large forage base of smelt, fish grow big on Tupper Lake. Indeed, Tupper is a trophy water for **lake trout**, **northern pike**, and **walleye**. Fishery biologists believe that a state-record walleye lives here. Trolling minnow plugs around the islands at night is the most consistent producer for walleyes. Shore fishing (bobber and minnow) for **tiger muskies**, **northern pike**, **walleye**, **smallmouth bass**, and **lake trout** is available where the Bog River enters Tupper Lake. This is also a prime spot for dip netting **smelt** in the spring. ❄️

Raquette Pond and Simon Pond are broad, shallow, weedy waters that have exceptional populations of **northern pike**.

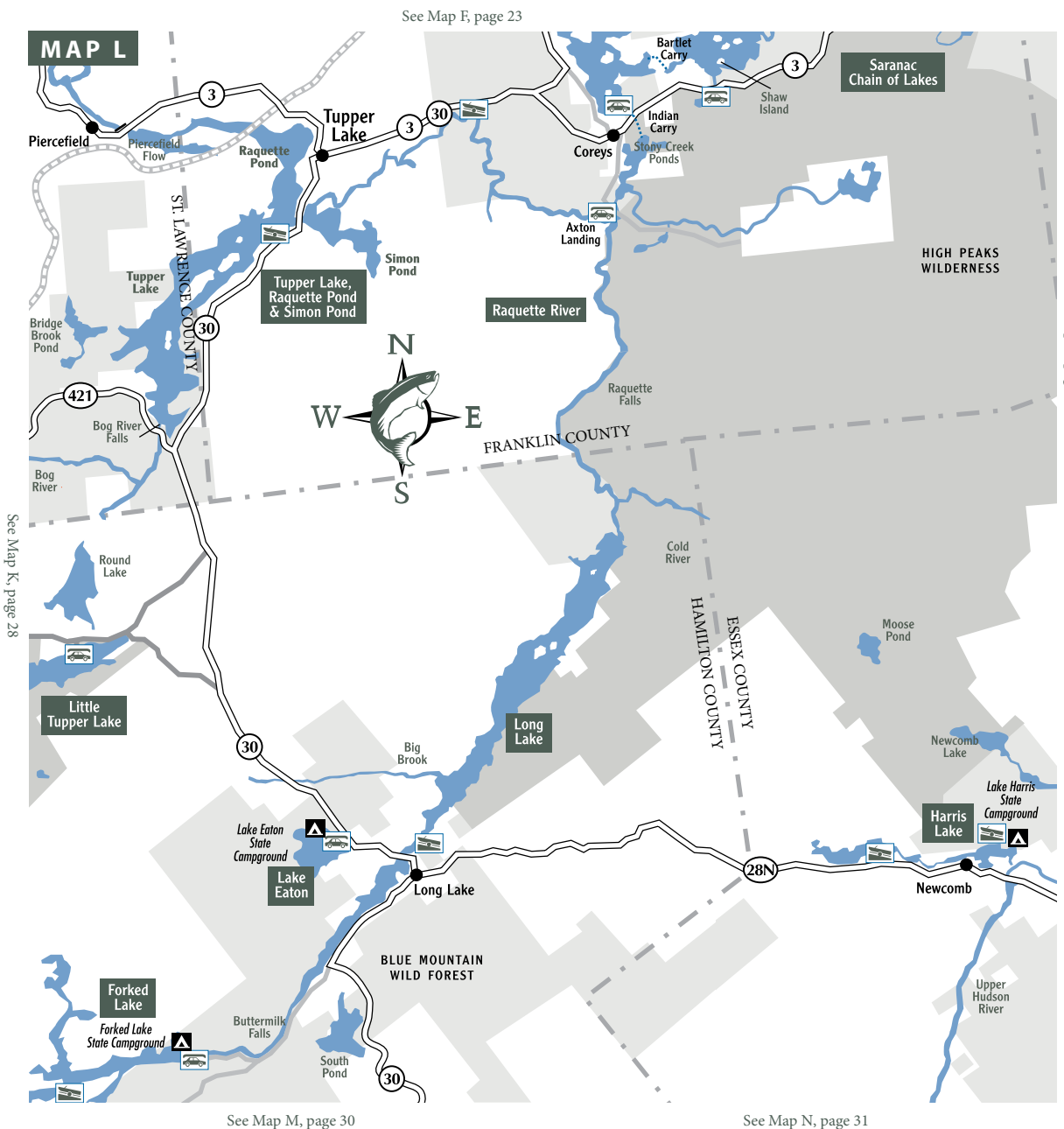
ACCESS: A DEC launch on Route 30 at Moody (handicap accessible) provides excellent access to Tupper Lake, Raquette Pond, and Simon Pond.

Lake Eaton

Lake Eaton is heavily stocked with **lake trout**, **rainbow trout**, **brown trout**, and **landlocked salmon**. For the past six years, **broodstock salmon** weighing 5-14 pounds have been released here in November, and for the past 50 years, the lake has held **wild landlocked salmon**. Despite its reputation as a coldwater fishery, the lake holds plenty of nice **smallmouth bass**. **ACCESS:** Lake Eaton has a DEC campground and car-top launch. ❄️

Raquette River

A state launch located off Route 30 between Tupper Lake and Saranac Lake opens up eight miles of the Raquette River. Anglers can boat upstream to the base of Raquette Falls. Rocks and trees along the entire stretch of river are holding areas for **bass**, **pike**, and **walleyes**. The river's long pools are good spots for spring walleyes as well as summer smallies and pike. In mid-summer, anglers should fish in the early morning because the river experiences a fair amount of recreational traffic. **ACCESS:** State launch off Route 30/3 east of Tupper Lake.

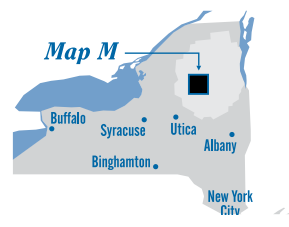


Long Lake

The best **smallmouth bass** fishing is found in the northern section of the lake near the islands. Two good **pike** spots are the shallow, weedy areas at Big Brook Bay and at the lake's outlet in the northeast corner. The southern section of the lake has a growing **largemouth bass** fishery with the possibility of anglers catching a five-pound bucketmouth. Work traditional largemouth-holding areas such as docks and fallen trees. **ACCESS:** DEC maintains a launch in the village of Long Lake.

Harris Lake

Harris Lake has decent numbers of **walleye**, **smallmouth & largemouth bass** as well as some **northern pike**. Rocky areas hold smallies while weedy areas hold largemouths and northers. **ACCESS:** Harris Lake has access from the ramp at the state campground.



Eighth Lake (Fulton Chain)

Eighth Lake sees annual stockings of **rainbow trout**, **lake trout**, and **landlocked salmon**, with rainbows being the most popular species among anglers. Rainbow fishing is best in the evening, and trolling is the preferred technique. Trolling also works well for landlocked salmon. Because both species feed on smelt, smelt imitations are the lures of choice. Eighth Lake has some big lake trout, but they are not commonly caught. Rocky areas of the lake hold some **smallies**, but the fishing is marginal. **ACCESS:** A DEC campground has a trailer launch for small boats.

Seventh Lake (Fulton Chain)

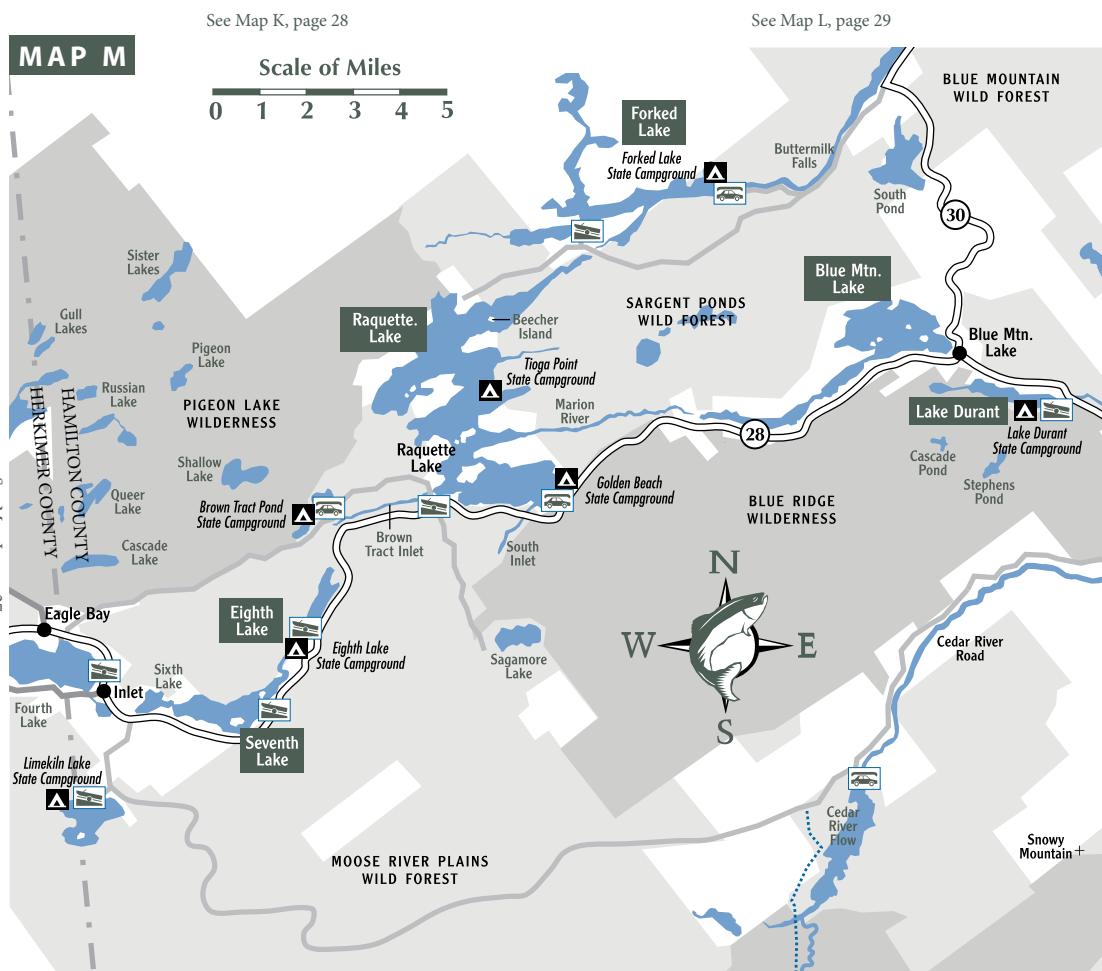
Seventh Lake receives annual stockings of **landlocked salmon** including broodstock fish up to 34 inches, **rainbow trout**, and **lake trout**. Lakers abound here. In fact, biologists are beginning to believe the lake may have too many lake trout. Big lakers are rare here, and the minimum length is 15 inches. Traditional techniques will yield decent catches of landlocked salmon and rainbow trout. The **smallmouth bass** fishing is pretty good, too. Check out rocky shorelines especially along the north shore. **ACCESS:** A DEC launch provides public access. ❄️

Raquette Lake

Raquette Lake is the home water for New York State's broodstock **lake trout**. The lake has three basins. The northern basin offers outstanding lake trout fishing particularly in the deep water near Beecher Island. Anglers experience a high catch rate here, but they commonly catch 15-20 fish before boating a legal one that measures 21 inches. The middle basin holds **largemouth bass** in all of its back bays, and the same holds true for the other basins. **Smallmouth bass**, too, can be found in any basin especially along rocky shorelines. Good **brook trout** fishing occurs in May at the mouth of the Marion River in the southern basin. **ACCESS:** A town launch in the village of Raquette Lake provides quality access. Several private marinas (small fee) along the southern shore also have launch ramps. Golden Beach State Campground has a shallow sandy car-top launch.

Forked Lake

Forked Lake holds good populations of both **smallmouth** and **largemouth bass**. Although bass can be found throughout the lake, the south end has the best habitat. Work rocky areas for smallies and shallow, stump-infested areas for largemouths. In the spring, Forked Lake draws some **brook trout** anglers. **Landlocked salmon** have been stocked in recent years. **ACCESS:** A DEC campground with a dirt launch sits at the lake's east end, and anglers will find a paved launch at the south end off the Carry Road. The north arm of Forked Lake is privately owned so public fishing is not allowed.



Blue Mountain Lake

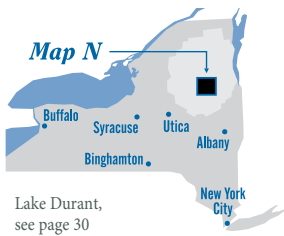
Blue Mountain Lake has bountiful populations of **lake trout**, **landlocked salmon**, and **smallmouth bass**. Lake trout here average five pounds with 10- to 20-pound lakers a possibility. The best area is the deep water adjacent to the islands. Because of irregular depths, trolling is difficult so anglers prefer to drift baitfish (suckers) in deep holes. Landlocked salmon can be found throughout the lake, and they run 15-20 inches in length. High-speed trolling works well on landlocks, and the top producers are minnow-imitation plugs and smelt-imitation streamers. Spring offers the best action. For smallmouths, work the rocky shoals, especially those in the southwest corner near the outlet. **ACCESS:** Two private launches (small fee) in the village of Blue Mountain Lake provide boat access.

Lake Durant

Lake Durant offers good fishing for **tiger muskies** and **largemouth bass**. Look for tigers along weedlines and near points and feeder streams. Early morning and early evening usually produce the best action. Shallow, weedy, stumpy areas promise the best largemouth fishing with bass up to five pounds a realistic possibility. **ACCESS:** A launch at the state campground here can handle bass boats.

Limekiln Lake

Limekiln Lake receives an annual stocking of 2,000 **splake**, and it yields plenty of fish in the 15- to 18-inch range and an occasional 5-8 pounder. The lake draws more attention from ice anglers than open-water ones. **ACCESS:** A state campground here has a cartop launch, but large boats can access the lake at a private marina. ❄️



Indian River below Lake Abanake

Because the Indian River is fairly wide, it is a good choice for either spin fishers or fly fishers. **Rainbow** and **brown trout** are stocked here annually. The river produces an abundance of yearling fish but two-year-old browns are stocked just below the dam. **WARNING:** Water is periodically released into the river to accommodate white-water rafting so anglers must be careful. **ACCESS:** The Chain Lakes Road parallels the river, and this road offers a number of access points.

Hudson River

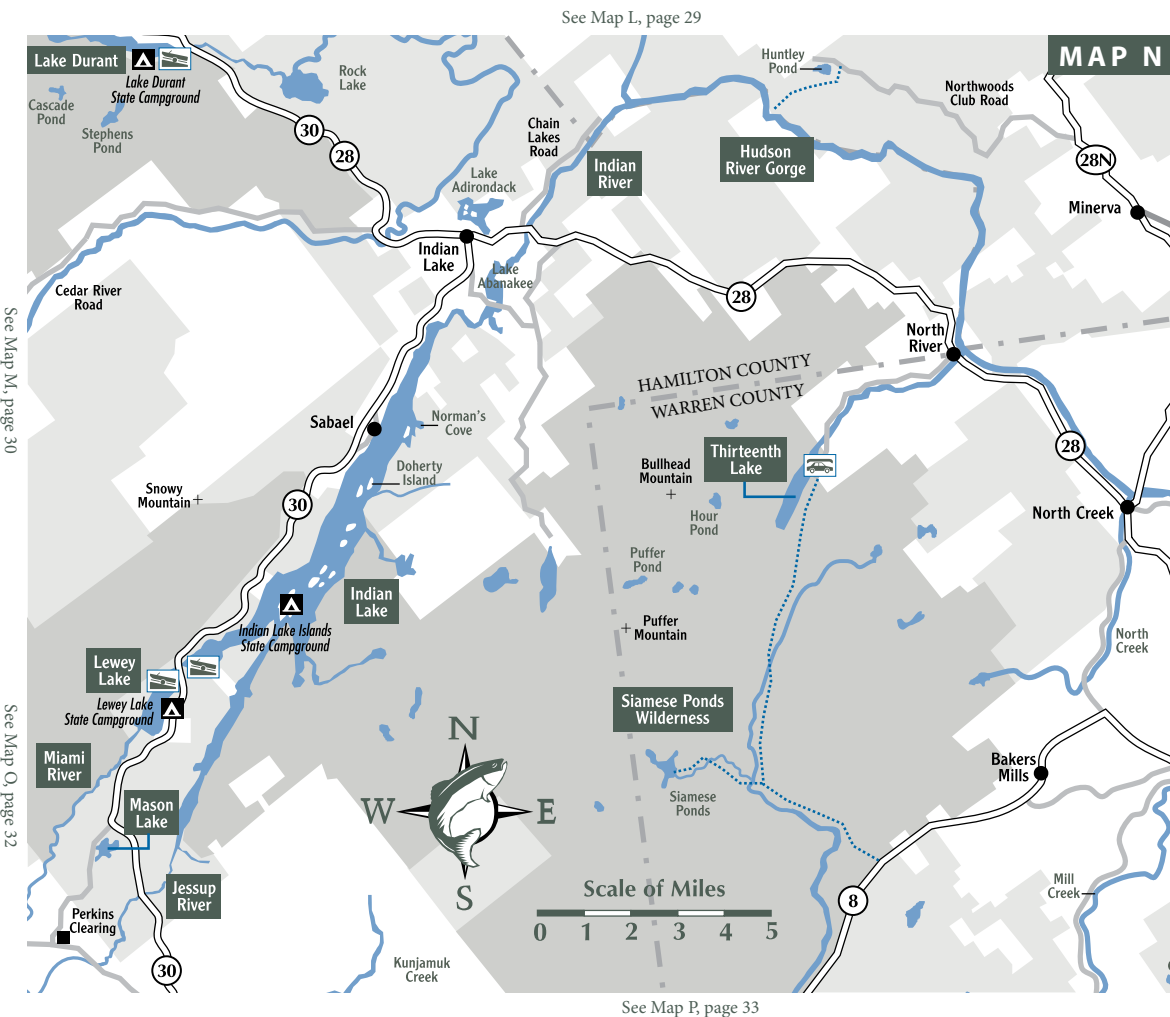
The Hudson River offers anglers a wilderness setting for **brown trout** and **smallmouth bass**. Significant brown trout stockings occur here, and the river's large size makes it a good choice for fly fishers. **WARNING:** Periodic, whitewater rafting releases cause dangerous water conditions on the Indian and Hudson rivers. **ACCESS:** Anglers access the river in two ways: hike two miles from the Northwoods Club Road and Huntley Pond trailhead OR raft from Lake Abanakee on the Indian River. Water conditions on the Hudson range from big pools to rough, whitewater stretches.

Indian Lake and Jessup River

A tremendous smelt population translates to big fish at Indian Lake. The southern two-thirds of the lake contains a rocky bottom—prime **smallmouth bass** habitat. Some of the best smallie action occurs near Doherty Island. The northern end of the lake has deep water, home to **brown trout**, **lake trout**, and **whitefish**. The story here in recent years has been the brown trout angling where fish average five pounds. This fishery is especially popular among ice anglers. Indian Lake has some nice **pumpkinseeds**, **yellow perch**, and **northern pike**. There are not a lot of pike, but when one is caught, it may weigh over 10 pounds. The Jessup River, which flows into the south end of Indian Lake, receives annual stockings of **brown** and **brook trout**. **ACCESS:** A DEC launch at the lake's south end provides access, and island camping is available. *

Lewey Lake and Miami River

Lewey Lake has populations of **northern pike**, **brown trout**, **lake trout**, and **smallmouth bass**. Look for pike around the big weedbed at the south end of the lake where the Miami River enters. Work the deep water in mid-lake for browns and lakers. Like many other Adirondack lakes, ice fishing is extremely popular here. Smallmouths can be found along rocky shorelines. The Miami River, located to the south of Lewey Lake, offers remote opportunities for **wild brook trout**. **ACCESS:** Lewey Lake has a DEC campground and trailer launch at its north end. *



Thirteenth Lake

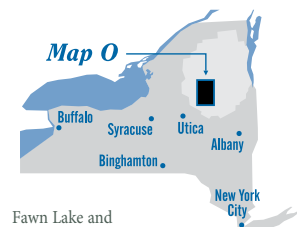
Thirteenth Lake is primarily a **brown** and **rainbow trout** fishery, but some **brook trout** and **wild salmon** are also present. Trolling is an effective technique here, as is fly fishing. Spring offers the best action, and trout are likely to be found anywhere on the lake as the fish seem to change preferred locations from year to year. **ACCESS:** A 100-yard carry from a state parking area is required to get boat and motor to lakeside. Electric motors are popular on Thirteenth Lake.

Mason Lake

Largemouth bass are the story at Mason Lake. First stocked here in the early 1990s, the population of largemouths is well-established thanks to an abundance of shallow water, massive weedbeds, and underwater stumps. Mason Lake largemouths reach five pounds. **ACCESS:** The lake has six primitive campsites and Route 30 borders the lake.

Siamese Ponds Wilderness

Covering over 175 square miles and harboring 79 ponds, the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area offers trout fishing in a remote setting. **Brook trout** are the main draw in this wilderness area, but some ponds hold **rainbow trout** and **lake trout**. A number of smaller ponds have yet to be surveyed by fisheries personnel. The two most popular ponds are Upper and Lower Siamese. A four-mile walk is required, but both ponds have potential for outstanding rainbow trout fishing. **RESTRICTIONS:** Anglers should note that fish may not be used as bait in any waters in the Siamese Ponds Wilderness Area. **ACCESS:** Anglers will have to hike miles of trails before reaching any water in this wilderness area.



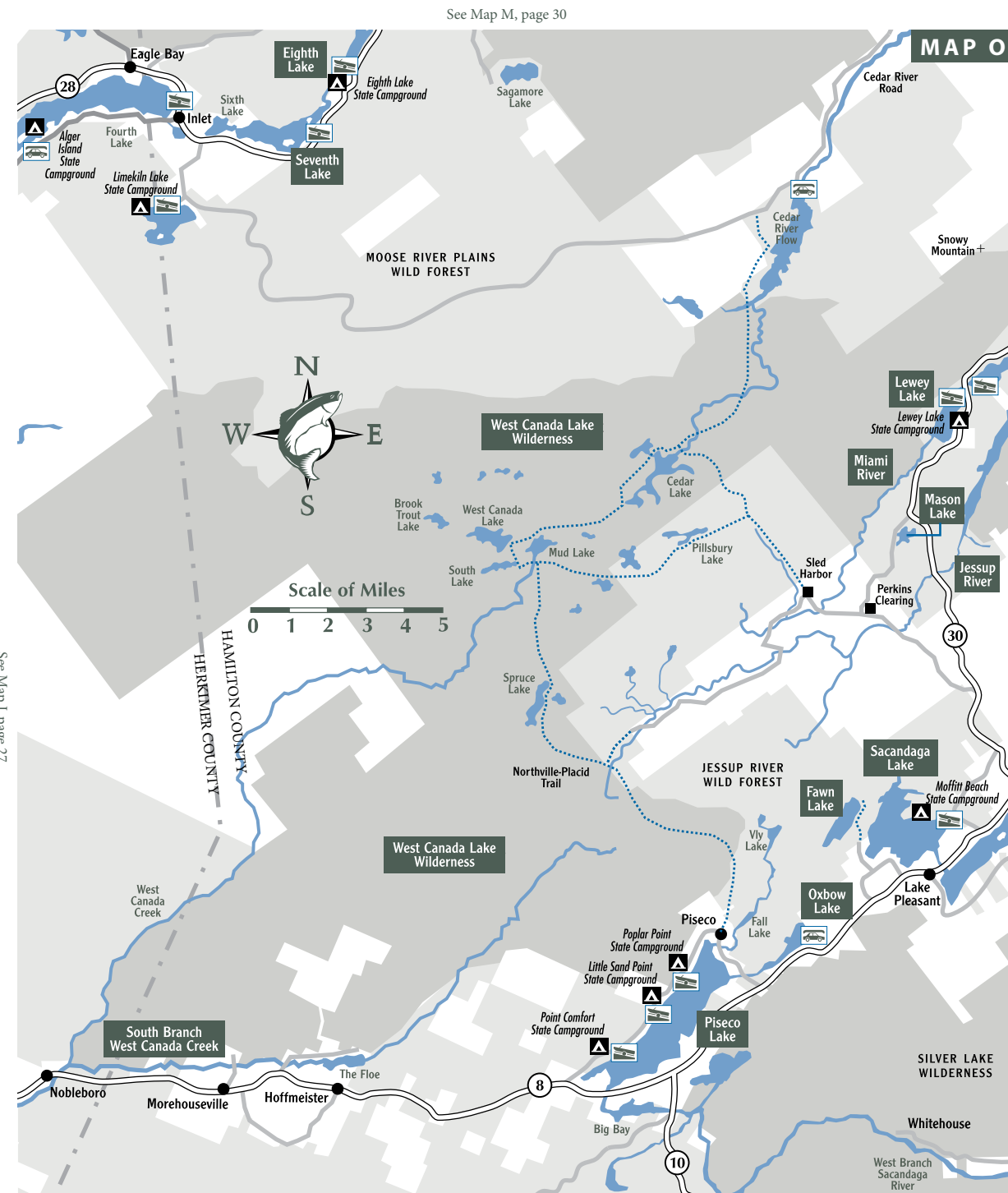
Fawn Lake and Sacandaga Lake, see page 33
Jessup River, Lewey Lake, Mason Lake and Miami River see page 32
Eighth Lake and Seventh Lake, see page 30

S. Branch West Canada Creek

The South Branch West Canada Creek receives stockings of two-year-old **brown trout** and yearling **brook trout** in the waters downstream of The Floe. Above The Floe, **wild brook trout** can be found. In addition to wading possibilities, canoe fishing is available below the Floe. **ACCESS:** Access is available at several roads off Route 28 where these roads cross the river.

Piseco Lake

Piseco Lake has traditionally received **lake trout** stockings, and in recent years **landlocked salmon** have been added to the annual stockings. Because of abundant populations of lakers and landlocks, Piseco Lake sees heavy angling pressure, especially during the winter. Ice fishing actually comprises 80 percent of the pressure here. In the spring, the best catches of trout and salmon are taken by trolling near creeks. Piseco Lake has good numbers of **whitefish**. **ACCESS:** Three DEC campgrounds with launches provide quality access to the lake. *



West Canada Lake Wilderness

Comprising nearly the entire southern half of Hamilton County, the West Canada Lake Wilderness Area has over 50 ponds. This massive area promises a wilderness experience for **wild brook trout**. Of the dozen or so lakes here, Cedar and Spruce are recognized as the best waters for brook trout. Anglers seeking a very remote experience should check out the pocket of ponds two miles southwest of Spruce Lake. **ACCESS:** The remote nature of this area requires a significant hike from most directions. A rough jeep road from Perkins Clearing provides the closest access to Spruce Lake with a 3.5 mile hike from the end of the road which is 9.3 miles from Perkins Clearing. Cedar Lake is a 5.5 mile hike from the Sled Harbor parking area. The Northville-Lake Placid Trail corridor traverses the area from Piseco to Cedar River Road.

Oxbow Lake

Oxbow Lake has good **largemouth** and **smallmouth bass** fishing. Look for largemouths near fallen trees, and check out the rocky areas along the north shore for smallies. Bass here grow to three pounds. The south shore is sandy with significant development so it does not attract bass. Oxbow Lake has a plentiful **pumpkinseed** population and a decent number of **pickerel**. **ACCESS:** Anglers access the lake from an unofficial launch at the east end and from a private launch (small fee) at mid-lake on the south shore.



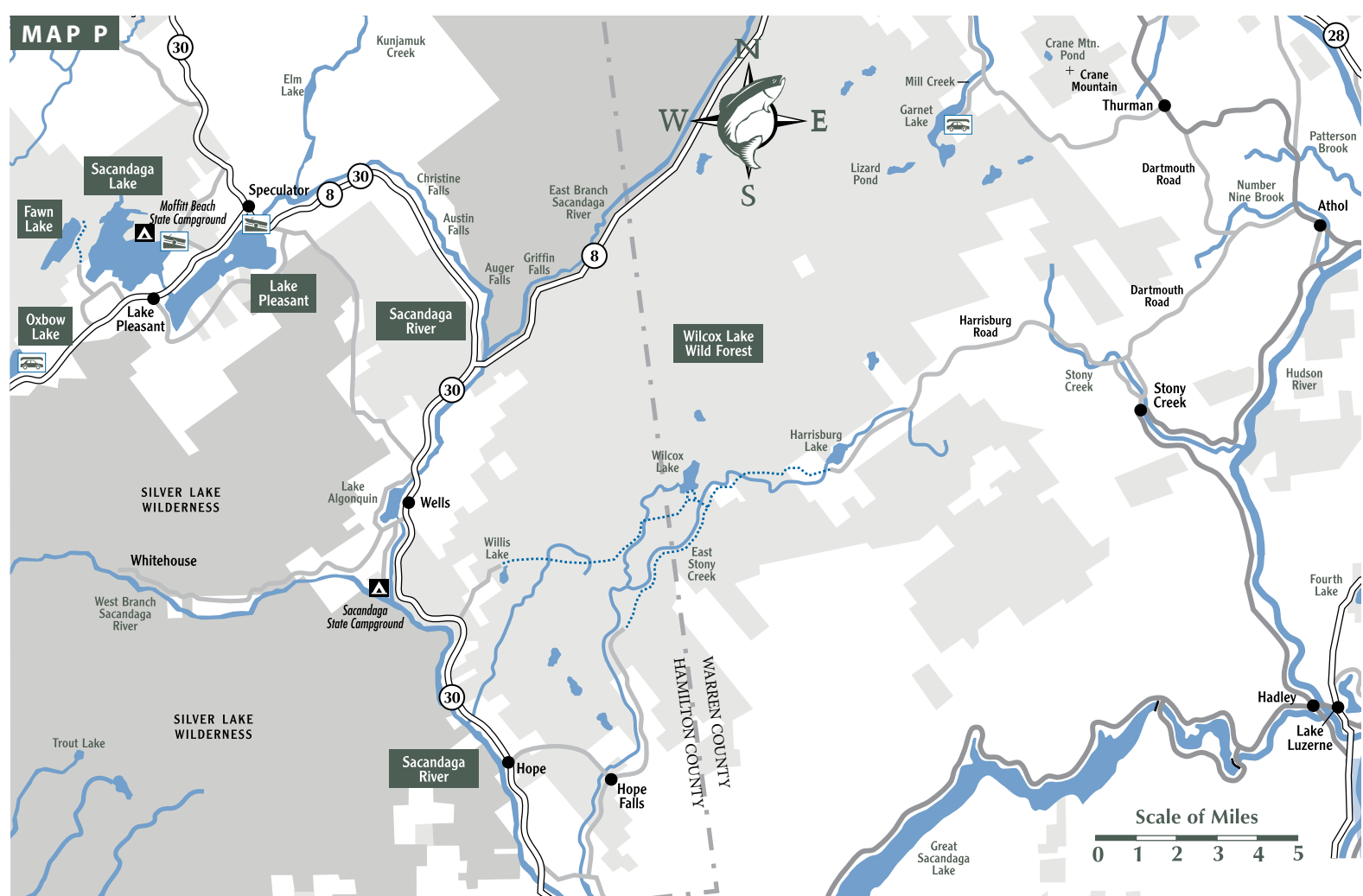
Oxbow Lake, see page 32

Fawn Lake

Fawn Lake offers a wilderness outing for **wild lake trout**. Shore fishing near deep-water areas is productive in the spring. When trout season opens on April 1, anglers jig for lakers through the ice. Fawn Lake also has some **smallmouth bass** and **pickerel**. **ACCESS:** Fawn Lake can be reached via a one-quarter mile hike. ❄️

Sacandaga River

Route 30 parallels the Sacandaga River from Speculator to Wells. This flow is heavily stocked with yearling **brown trout**, and it also holds some **wild brook trout**. A DEC campground two miles south of Wells is the most popular fishing spot. This area has excellent access, deep pools, and hefty stockings including some two-year-old browns. Upstream from the campground where a road crosses, anglers will find a gorge that should appeal to the adventurous fly fisher seeking wild brook trout. **ACCESS:** Route 30 parallels the main branch of the Sacandaga River and a DEC campground is located two miles south of Wells.



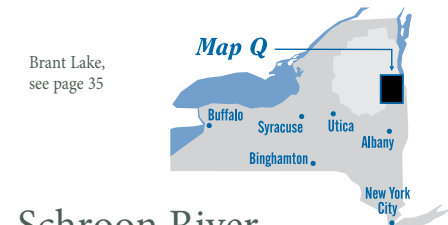
See Map O, page 32

See Map Q, page 34

Wilcox Lake Wild Forest

Brook trout are the most pursued species in the Wilcox Lake Wild Forest Area (WFA), but populations of **brown trout**, **largemouth bass**, **smallmouth bass**, and **pickerel** are also available. The most popular water is Wilcox Lake, and anglers must hike almost five miles from any direction to reach it. DEC stocks nearly 5,000 brook trout annually here. Vegetation makes shore fishing difficult so most anglers use inflatable rafts or lightweight canoes when fishing backcountry ponds. **ACCESS:** The WFA has 45 ponds and lakes, most of which require a long hike to reach. Most of the trails into Wilcox Lake follow old roads and are marked primarily as snowmobile trails. The scenic East Stony Creek Trail (near Hope Falls) to Wilcox Lake is 4.8 miles one-way; the least used route from Willis Lake is 4.7 miles. From Harrisburg Lake, it is a 4.9 mile hike to Wilcox Lake.

See Map N, page 31



Brant Lake, see page 35

Schroon River

The Schroon River sees an annual stocking of 10,500 **rainbow**, **brown**, and **brook trout**. The majority of stocked fish are rainbows. The Schroon flows for over 20 miles through Warren County, but much of the land is private. One popular public section is Starbuckville Dam. This heavily stocked area draws fly fishers, and it is a good spot for families. Another popular area is the mile of public fishing rights (PFR) paralleling the Schroon River Road. Fly fishers should note the Schroon has nice caddis fly hatches during May and June. **ACCESS:** Partially posted. The DEC website has a map of the PFR stretch of river (see page 35). Canoe access sites exist at South Horicon and Riverbank as well as at several other locations.

See Map N, page 31

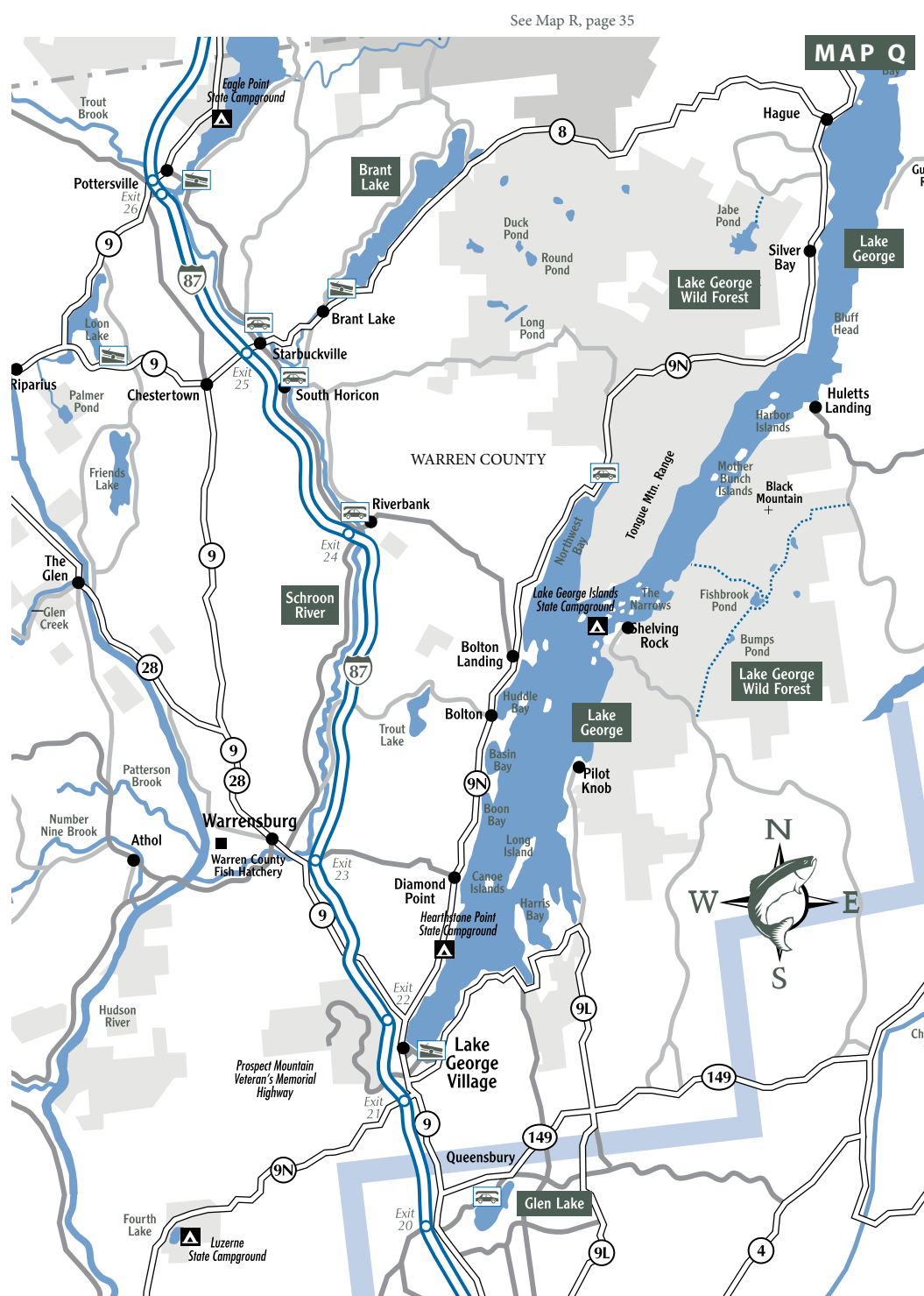
Lake George Wild Forest

Bordered by Lake George itself, Lake George Wild Forest Area has 47 ponds and lakes. Many of these waters hold **wild** or **stocked brook trout**. Other available species include **rainbow trout**, **brown trout**, and **largemouth bass**. Two popular ponds are Fishbrook Pond and Bumps Pond. Jabe Pond is the most heavily fished water because it can be accessed via a four-mile jeep trail. Rainbow trout stockings were initiated at Jabe Pond in the early 1990s, and it also sees hefty brook trout stockings annually. **ACCESS:** Most waters here require a several mile hike to reach.

See Map P, page 33

Glen Lake

Glen Lake sees an annual stocking of 2,250 **rainbow trout**, so the lake offers outstanding fishing for big rainbows. May through early summer is a prime time to troll minnow plugs, flies, or wabblers and worms. The best catches frequently occur near the 40-foot depths in the eastern end of the lake. **ACCESS:** A town launch provides car-top access, but parking is very limited here.



See Map R, page 35

Lake George

Lake George is a first-rate fishing water. Both the North and South basins hold populations of **wild lake trout**, **landlocked salmon**, **largemouth bass**, **smallmouth bass**, **pickerel**, **northern pike**, and **panfish**. Trout and salmon are very accessible in the spring near tributary mouths, but during the summer, anglers will need downriggers or other deep-water gear to reach these fish. When bass season opens in June, look for smallies in rocky areas. Summertime smallmouths prefer rocky habitat, too, but they are typically caught at 70-foot depths on minnows or crayfish. Throughout the season, check out the weedy bays for largemouth bass, pickerel, and pike. Lake George's high panfish population makes the water a good choice for young anglers. **ACCESS:** Four public DEC launches provide access: Mossy Point, south of Ticonderoga on Black Point Road, and the launch at Roger's Rock State Campground, both have concrete ramps and are located at the northern end of the lake. There's a car-top launch in Northwest Bay and a launch ramp in the southern basin at Million Dollar Beach which is open from ice-out until the week before Memorial Day and from the week after Labor Day until ice-in. Numerous fee-charging launches exist around the lake. Lake George sees heavy recreational use from Memorial Day through Labor Day so summer anglers should plan their outings for early morning or poor weather days. ❄️

Scale of Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5



Paradox Lake

Paradox Lake holds populations of **rainbow trout**, **lake trout**, **smallmouth bass**, and **largemouth bass**. Annual rainbow stockings number over 8,000, and these fish favor deep, cool water. Although rainbows are located throughout the lake, they show a preference for the western basin. Lake trout are also found primarily in the western basin. Paradox Lake has good bass fishing. Look for largemouth bass around The Narrows, and for smallmouths check out the rocky islands and shoals throughout the lake. **ACCESS:** A state campground and launch provide access.

Eagle Lake

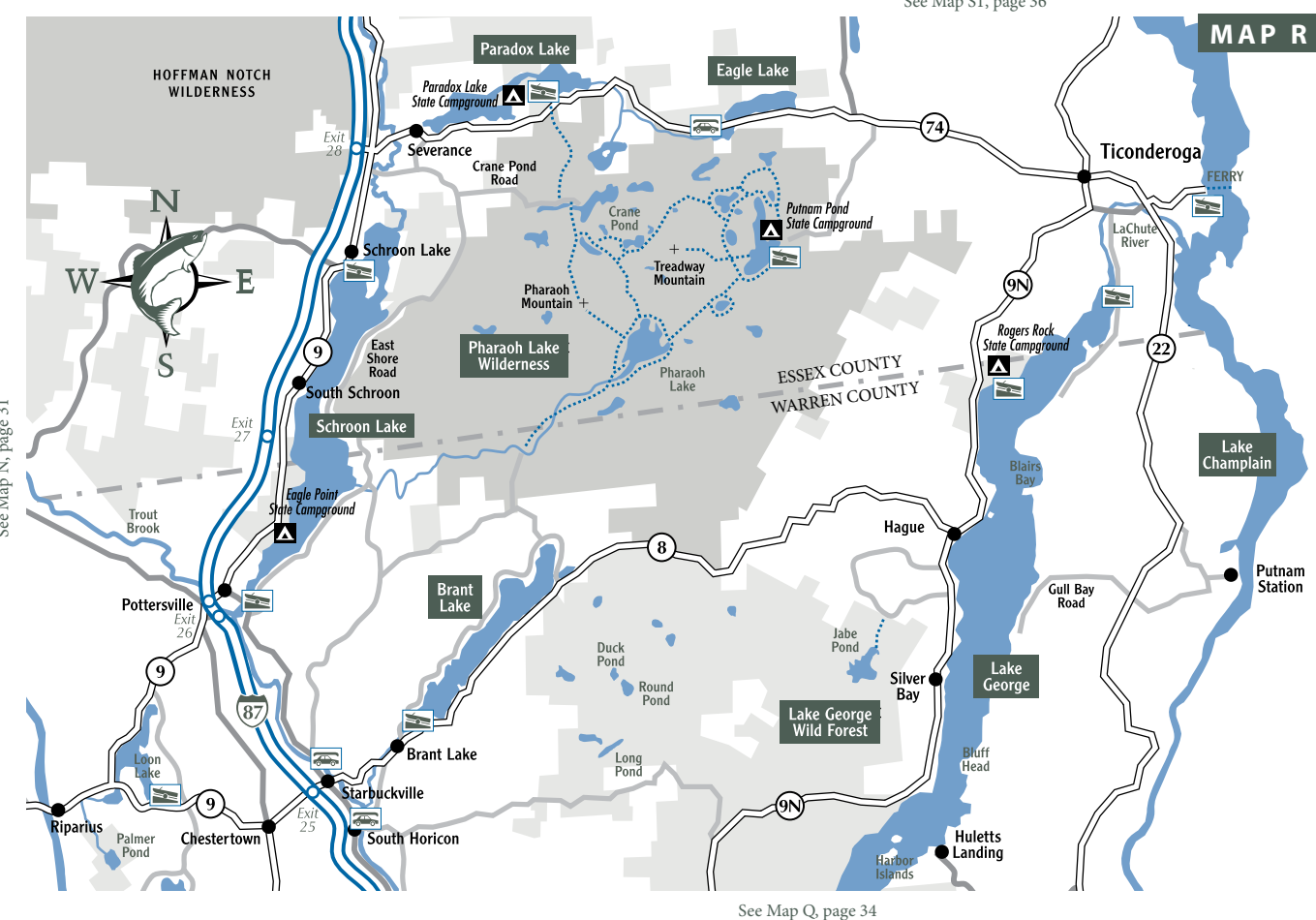
Eagle Lake has populations of **smallmouth bass**, **northern pike**, and **brown trout**. Smallmouth action is good along rocky shorelines and islands. Northern pike hold along weedlines and dropoffs, but these fish are challenging to catch. Eagle Lake sees an annual stocking of over 3,500 brown trout, and the best fishing occurs in the larger, deeper basin. Big pike and brown trout are particularly popular among ice anglers. **ACCESS:** A state-owned, car-top launch on the smaller, south basin provides access and small to medium-size boats can maneuver under the causeway to the main basin. ❄️

Schroon Lake

Schroon Lake offers coldwater and warmwater opportunities. Both **smallmouth** and **largemouth** action can be good throughout the summer. Look for smallies along rocky areas adjacent to deep water. Check out weedy areas for largemouth bass. These same weedbeds also hold **northern pike**, and ice anglers often catch the biggest pike of the year. **Lake trout** and **landlocked salmon** fishing has been good in recent years as annual stockings number nearly 10,000 fish. Anglers will also find quality ice fishing for landlocks and lakers. Schroon is a big lake, and the trout and salmon are all over so anglers will have to do some searching to locate fish. A good bet is to key on schools of smelt, and then to troll smelt-imitation offerings. **ACCESS:** Anglers can access the lake from a state launch on the south end or from a village ramp at the north end. ❄️

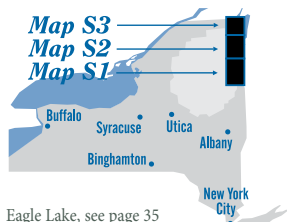
Pharaoh Lake Wilderness

Accessible by foot only, the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness Area offers remote experiences for **stocked** and **wild brook trout**. Some of the 20 or so ponds here also have **wild lake trout**, and fishing for lakers can be outstanding. The best fishing is often directly related to the difficulty of access. Compared to other areas in the Adirondacks, the Pharaoh Lakes Wilderness does not have a lot of change in elevation. Hikers can reach some ponds via a short hike of a mile or so, or they can spend a few days backpacking to waters deeper in the wilderness area. The best fishing occurs in spring and fall when water temperatures are cool. Plugs, spoons, and flies will take trout, but the most consistent producer is the traditional Adirondack wabber and worm. **ACCESS:** Popular access points include Putnam Pond State Campground on the east side, Crane Pond Road on the west side, and Pharaoh Lake Road on the south end.



Brant Lake

Annual stockings of nearly 3,000 **brown trout** and over 11,000 **rainbow trout** make Brant Lake a good choice for anglers seeking these species. The best fishing occurs from May through early July when anglers troll minnow plugs or flies. Both browns and rainbows are open-water fish so they could be anywhere on the lake. Brant Lake has a decent **largemouth bass** fishery in the weedy bays. **ACCESS:** Anglers will find public access at a DEC launch at the west end near the outlet. ❄️

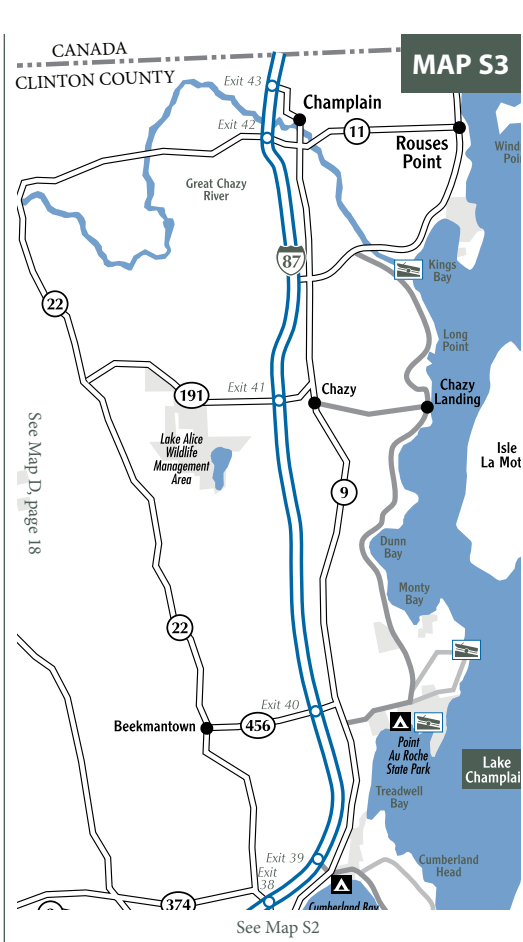
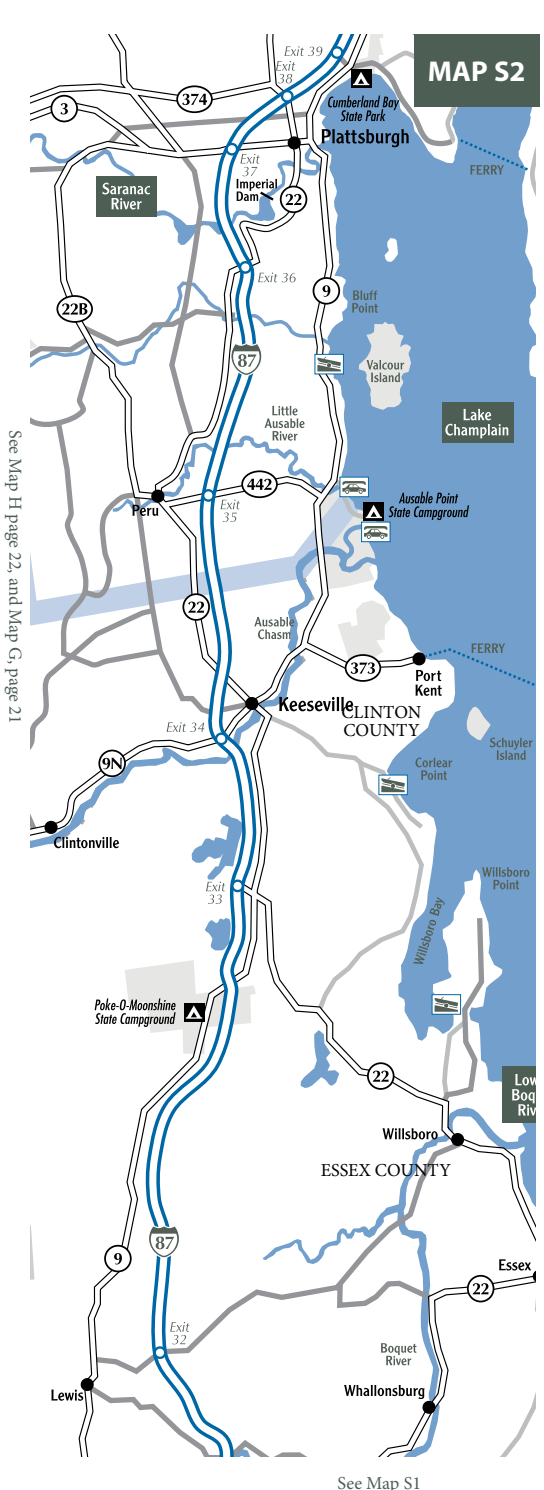
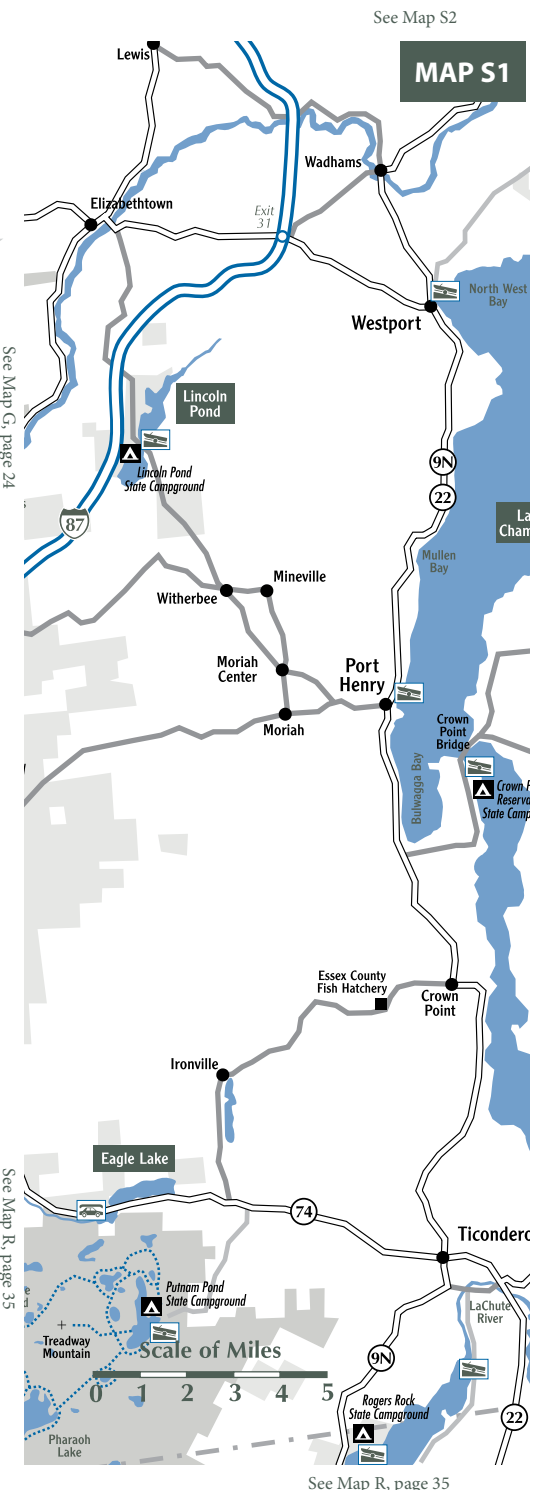


Lower Boquet River

The Lower Boquet River offers spring and fall fishing for **landlocked salmon**. The spring action occurs primarily from Willsboro out toward Lake Champlain where anglers use canoes or car-top boats to troll smelt-imitation offerings. In the fall, landlocked salmon are available to both shore anglers and small boaters as the fish run upstream to Wadhams Falls. **ACCESS:** Public fishing rights are scattered through the river so anglers should check DEC maps before hitting the water.

Lincoln Pond

Lincoln Pond has good **largemouth bass** fishing. Fish are located throughout this shallow, weedy lake although bass numbers are lower in the southern basin. Standard presentations such as spinnerbaits, surface lures, and plastic worms work well especially along weedlines and in openings in the weeds. Lincoln Pond also has **tiger muskies** and **smallmouth bass**. The muskies grow large, but they are challenging to catch. Look for smallies in rocky areas. **ACCESS:** The DEC campground and launch provide public access.



Lake Champlain

Lake Champlain has a variety of coldwater and warmwater species. Because of deep water, the central portion of the lake from Port Henry to Cumberland Head offers the best opportunities for **lake trout** and **landlocked salmon**. This is a year-round fishery, and trolling is the most effective technique from spring through fall. In both spring and fall, trolling takes place near shore while mid-summer trollers head to open water. The key at any time of the year is to locate schools of smelt, and then to troll smelt-imitation plugs, spoons, or flies. For **smallmouth bass**, fish the rocky shoals and shorelines. Weedy areas throughout the lake hold plenty of **largemouth bass** and **northern pike**. Some of the best largemouth fishing occurs from just north of Crown Point to just south of Port Henry. Lake Champlain has **walleyes**, including some trophy fish, but this species is challenging to locate and catch. **ACCESS:** Quality launch sites are available in many locations around the lake. ❄️

FUN ON THE WATER STARTS WITH A SAFE BOATING COURSE AND A LIFE JACKET!

Boarding your favorite boat and heading out to the beautiful waterways and lakes of New York State is a perfect way to enjoy a sunny summer day. Whether your choice is a motorboat, personal watercraft, sailboat, kayak, canoe, or a stand-up paddleboard, safe boaters have more fun and everyone can be a safer boater by following the *Big Three of Boating Safety* :

1. Take a boating safety course
2. Wear your life jacket
3. Don't drink alcohol while boating



New York State's new Mandatory Motorboat Education Law requires that anyone BORN ON OR AFTER MAY 1, 1996 must complete an approved course in order to operate a motorboat. If you were born before this date it is highly recommended that you take a boating safety course. The operator of a personal watercraft (i.e. Jet Ski, Wave Runner, Seadoo) must be at least 14 years of age and hold a boating safety certificate. Approved courses are taught by New York State Parks, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the U.S. Power Squadron. Students must be at least 10 years of age to take a course.

The owner of a recently purchased motorboat will have 120 days from the date of purchase to complete a course if born on or after May 1, 1996. New owners who were born before this date do not have to take a course.

Every boat must have one life jacket on board for each person. Life jackets must be U.S. Coast Guard approved, properly sized for the intended wearer, in good condition with no rips or tears and all the buckles and zippers must work, and be readily accessible in case of emergency. NY State Parks recommends that you wear your life jacket as accidents on the water can happen quickly. U.S. Coast Guard estimates that 71% of boating accident deaths were drownings and that 85% of those people were not wearing a life jacket.

There are four situations in which a life jacket is legally required to be worn:

1. Children under the age of 12 unless in a fully enclosed cabin
2. Everyone riding on a personal watercraft
3. Anyone being towed behind a boat whether tubing, water skiing, etc.
4. Everyone on all boats less than 21 feet long from November 1 to May 1

You should also wear your life jacket if you are boating alone, you are not a good swimmer, you are boating with children, the water becomes rough in windy weather, the water is busy with boat traffic, you are boating at night, or any time you would feel safer wearing your life jacket. As captain of your boat, you can require your passengers to wear their life jackets. The best life jacket is the one that you wear.

Lastly, consider zero alcohol consumption while boating. According to U.S. Coast Guard statistics 31% of fatal accidents involved the use of alcohol. If you do choose to drink while boating, have a designated driver who does not drink. Boating while intoxicated is 0.08 BAC, the same as for driving a motor vehicle.

Before you head out on the water this summer remember the Big Three of Boating Safety and have both a fun and safe boating experience.

For more boating safety information or to find a New York Safe Boating Course go to www.WearItNewYork.com

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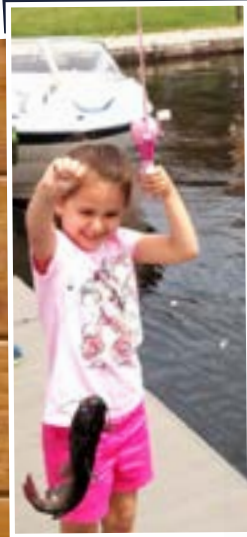
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Stillwater Reservoir Big Moose Lake
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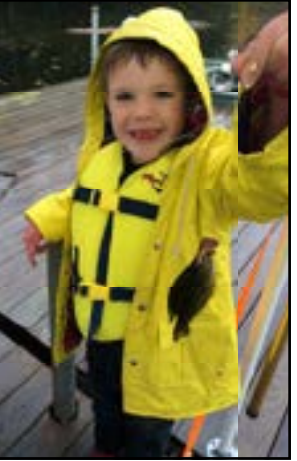


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